

# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVII NO. 40 OCTOBER 1, 1987

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## Bye Bye Baybrick



The Baybrick Inn, a gay community institution, will close its doors Oct. 3 after five years. See story on page 17. (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Son Comes Out,  
So Does Family —  
With Weapons

## Ax Attack Victim Sues

by Ray O'Loughlin

An ax-wielding grandpa and a golf club-swinging mom and dad were sued in San Mateo Superior Court Sept. 28 for subjecting their gay son and his friends to a night of terror. On June 27, Dennis May went to help his friend Michael Martini move out of his grandparents' house. For his help, he was brutally attacked by Martini's grandfather and parents.

May is invoking California's Ralph Act that prohibits violence against individuals on the basis of sexual orientation. That law provides for a minimum of \$10,000 in punitive damages plus three times the victim's actual damages. In the assault, May was injured seriously enough to require a trip to the hospital and stitches. He is claiming physical injuries, emotional distress, loss of wages, and medical expenses.

Meanwhile, in addition to May's civil suit, Martini's grandfather Howard Sotherden and parents Joseph and Patricia Martini face trial on criminal misdemeanor charges of assault with a deadly weapon.

### ROUGH COMING OUT

When Michael Martini told his grandparents he was gay, they ordered him to move out of their house. So, Michael asked three friends—May, L. Richard Shaug, and Rick Hunts—to help him retrieve his personal belongings from the South San Francisco residence. He arranged a time to pick up his things and the four men showed up the evening of June 27 at the agreed upon time.

But his grandmother, also named in the suit, refused to let him into the house. Instead, she spoke to him from a second floor

(Continued on page 21)



Atty. Paul Wotman brandishes an ax to make his point (Photo: BAR)

While Republican Party  
Urges Governor To  
Prosecute AIDS Educators,

## State Bans Safe Sex Info

by Brian Jones

The California Republican Party this week called for criminal prosecution of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and others who distribute explicit AIDS educational materials. It was the latest skirmish in a widening statewide campaign against gay-related AIDS education. The Deukmejian administration was already moving aggressively this summer to enforce a two-year-old ban on safe sex education materials.

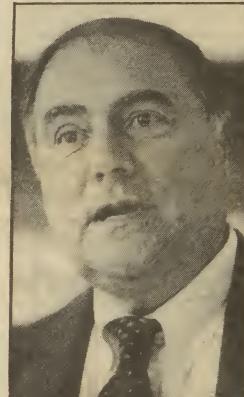
Among the items declared "obscene" by the state AIDS office and, now, by the state Republican Party, are:

- The popular "Can We Talk" brochure, first published in 1982 and since updated by the Milk Democratic Club's AIDS Education Fund. More than 200,000 copies of the illustrated, bluntly worded brochure have already been distributed nationwide and—in Spanish—in Mexico and South America.

- The wallet-sized safe sex cards which list safe, possibly safe and unsafe sexual activities.

- The chart on "Guidelines for AIDS Risk Reduction" on which the wallet-sized cards are based. The risk reduction guidelines also describe which activities

(Continued on page 16)



Dr. David Werdeger  
(Photo: BAR)

## On Their Way

Gays and Lesbians Pack Their Bags  
For Oct. 11 March on Washington

by Mary Richards

"As soon as I heard about it, I knew I had to go." Those were the words of M. Janet Allen, but she probably speaks for hundreds—maybe thousands—of Bay Area residents. They're on their way to the nation's capital next week for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The march is Sunday, Oct. 11, and events are scheduled during the days preceding and following the march.

Jan Allen has worked as a federal employee for 21 years, and the demand that gay and federal employees should not be discriminated against has a special meaning for her.

She will be in Washington for five days, and leaves Tuesday, Oct. 13, the day of civil disobedience before the Supreme Court.

"I'd love to have the courage to do civil disobedience," she says. "However, because I'm a federal employee, if I were to be arrested it would be very easy for

the government to pick that up and use it as a cause for dismissal."

Then she starts to laugh, and the wistfulness disappears: "But if I won my \$10 million from the Publisher's Clearing House, I would do the CD in a flash! — the people who are doing it have my full moral support, and I love them for doing it."

Jan sees media coverage as being of particular importance to the event. "People that don't see (Continued on page 18)



# Insurer Promotes, Then Cancels, Policies for AIDS

## S.F. Man Sues L.A. Firm, Alleges High-Pressure Ad Scam

by Ray O'Loughlin

A Southern California insurance company is accused of taking "advantage of the climate of fear" surrounding AIDS to sell policies which it later cancelled, refusing to pay claims. An Aug. 31 lawsuit filed in San Francisco Superior Court charges Coastal Insurance Co. with breach of contract for failing to pay a \$78,000 claim to Gary Frantz. The suit contends that Frantz was misled by "scare advertising . . . to induce a class of vulnerable persons to take out this policy of insurance."

On Sept. 20, 1985, Frantz purchased a Coastal policy for AIDS Medical Expense Insurance, known as the "AIDS 1000" policy. The insurance was advertised as paying expenses incurred from AIDS treatments provided that more than 90 days elapsed from the policy purchase date to the date of diagnosis.

Six months later, in March 1986, Frantz was diagnosed with pneumocystis pneumonia. On April 20, he filed his first claim for benefits under his AIDS 1000 policy.

That and subsequent claims were ignored until February 1987, when Frantz received "a written denial of all claims in the form of a rescission of the policy," the lawsuit alleges.

Then in May, Frantz was told in a letter from Coastal that his claims were denied "on the basis of pre-existing condition, and/or for manifestations of AIDS within 90 days of policy date," states the lawsuit.

Attorney Alice Philipson of Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF), called Frantz's suit "a typical bad faith insurance suit."

The insurer "breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing in that they failed to provide payments and coverage, attempted in bad faith to rescind a valid contract, (and) failed to act promptly in respect to the review of denials of claims," states the suit. All are violations of the California Insurance Code.

### TARGETED GAYS

"Coastal Insurance made a bold faced attempt to profit on the epidemic of fear associated with AIDS," said Philipson. "They pushed insurance onto men at risk to AIDS, and then when a claim came in, they refused to pay it."

According to the suit, Coastal Insurance targeted gay communities throughout California, taking advantage of the fear of AIDS. The Los Angeles-based insurance company "circulated an estimate or illustration of policy benefits targeted to 'anyone in an AIDS high risk group' which contains misleading statements and misrepresentations of both the policy terms and conditions and misleads and misrepresents by overstating the economic advantages to the insured of the AIDS 1000 policy," charges Frantz in his suit.

He accused Coastal of having "designed" the policy and its campaign "to both add to and take advantage of the climate of fear that exists within the gay community as a result of the AIDS epidemic."

Said Philipson, "It was like shouting fire in a crowded theater."

ter. Hurry up and buy before it's too late, was the message in the ads."

Chris Wain, of Coastal Insurance, did not want to talk about the allegations in the lawsuit. "I can't comment on a matter that is now before a court," he said.

In defense of Coastal's actions, he said, "We feel we've complied with the terms of the policy."



\$10,000 was split between the AIDS Emergency Fund (\$2,000), the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank (\$2,000), and Coming Home Hospice (\$6,000) from proceeds from Thursday night Bingo at Most Holy Redeemer Church

(Photo: S. Martin)

Coastal launched its AIDS 1000 policy in early 1985. In January 1986, the company applied for and received a rate increase from the California Department of Insurance. Then in June 1986, policyholders began receiving letters informing

them that their policies would be rescinded as of their next premium date. Coastal said that fewer than 1,000 policies had been sold, well below the 5,000 hoped for. Policyholders were assured that coverage would remain in effect until the policy

expired.

Coastal no longer markets the AIDS 1000 policy.

The suit is seeking payment on all of Frantz's claims, plus "punitive and exemplary damages," court costs and attorney fees.

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## BACK ATTACK?



The high bar has always been my favorite event, but at last year's Gay Games II, I was working my routine with the precision of a laser when my back locked tighter than Fort Knox. It was a "BACK ATTACK." I'd heard other gymnasts discuss this dreaded experience, but for me it was the first. My primal posture persisted for several days and finally my boyfriend recommended a visit to Cathedral Hill Chiropractic. After a series of visits over the course of a week, I'm feeling great. This "BACK ATTACK" thing is certainly a new twist, but at least the doctors at Cathedral Hill Chiropractic certainly know how to straighten it out.

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## 4 Staffers Quit, Grievance Is Filed Against CUAV Head

by Tim Taylor

A labor dispute at Community United Against Violence (CUAV) has erupted between the agency's staff and its executive director. Seven current or former employees have filed a grievance protesting a management style which they call abusive and stifling, and four workers have quit.

The seven-page complaint by staff, which has not been made public, alleges mismanagement of personnel, poor planning and implementation of programs, and inadequate community-based fundraising.

Bay Area Reporter has learned the grievance was supported by seven members of the nine-person staff when it was filed in July. Since then four of the disgruntled workers have resigned, and more resignations are rumored.

CUAV staff members who have resigned are Carmen Vasquez, William Hunt, Suzanne Gautier and Chris Nunez.

The strongest criticism in the grievance are directed toward Diana Christensen, the executive director of the eight-year-old agency.

Vasquez asserted her resignation was prompted by "an unwillingness to continue being engaged in an abusive and destructive relationship with [Christensen]."

Christensen said she draws the line on collective input when it comes to ensuring "minimum standards of quality" in staff performance. Asked if she felt some employees were not meeting her performance standards she said, "I am not going into specifics on personnel."

### MONEY PROBLEMS

Another factor underlying the faltering staff morale is a lack of funds, according to the grievance.

CUAV's budget this year is \$225,000, about 60 percent of which comes from city grants administered by District Attorney Arlo Smith. Christensen said the city does not include cost-of-living increases when annual grants are renewed. This year's increase in city funding was 1.5 percent. That makes giving salary increases difficult.

The grievance alleges CUAV is too dependent on government grants, and that not enough effort is expended on community-based fundraising. Staff argues that a diversification of fundraising would place CUAV on a more secure financial footing, and make available more funds for raises and program resources which are in short supply.

### RAPID GROWTH

Gautier noted that CUAV has experienced rapid growth. The agency was started to document instances of anti-gay violence. It has grown into a multi-purpose agency handling victim services, prevention and education programs, outreach services to high schools and a domestic violence project. The pioneering group has won national praise for its efforts.

Gautier called for a diversification of responsibilities at CUAV, noting that no one person is able to deal with the full range of issues facing the agency.

"God can't do that job," Gautier said.

The grievance seeks to redress the internal dissension by replacing

CUAV's staff and Christensen have been on a collision course for months. Last February an impartial mediator was hired to smooth over intra-agency disputes which have occurred over recent years. In an effort to quell dissatisfaction a three-member management team was created to decentralize the oversight of staff and programs.

But a CUAV board member called the management team "ineffectual" and the grievance states the concept failed because authority continued to reside solely with Christensen.

Tensions are running so high that the Board of Directors and staff have been unable to agree



Diana Christensen  
(Photo: Rink)

on a procedure to air the complaint.

A meeting set in September was abruptly aborted when staff members learned they would not be allowed to make a collective presentation. An agenda presented by the board proposed to interview staff individually, but they balked at the process and walked out.

### INTIMIDATION ALLEGED

Said Gautier, "Staff was offended by being presented with an agenda 10 minutes before the start of the meeting. The board does not respect the staff in terms of the nature of the grievance."

Those who filed the grievance are meeting with a labor law attorney this week to explore their options in pursuing their complaint.

In her letter of resignation, Nunez suggested the grievance procedure is tainted. She noted that since the filing of the complaint two staff members were placed on probation, and asserted the action constituted intimidation by Christensen.

Vasquez, one of those cited, called the probation "bogus — a tactic intended to force me to resign."

Ken Alexander and Paula Lichtenberg, the president and vice president of CUAV, declined to be interviewed for this article.

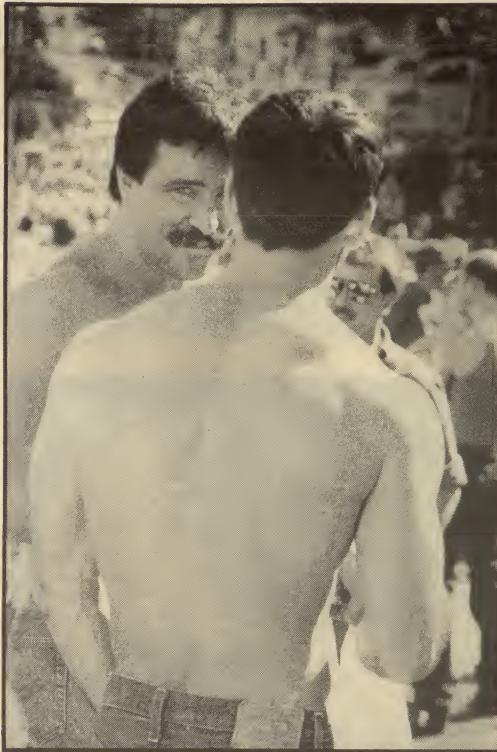
Jean Harris, another board member, disputed the characterization of the board as uncaring. Of the procedures to be used in addressing the complaint Harris said, "Let's make it a safe environment for them to come in and talk."

Harris observed, "I know there are problems with the executive director and how she handles staff," but she added the board members had not known the dimensions of the internal strife. "The board was unaware of the staff being so upset," she said.

Harris said that much of CUAV's growth and high performance level as a community-based organization should be credited to Christensen's leadership. She said on this basis Christensen "does an extremely good job. Without her there wouldn't be a CUAV."

The combination of low pay and the stress that comes with working on violence issues underlie many of CUAV's problems, according to Harris.

"Working for CUAV is a high burn-out," she said. "Especially now when the violence has gone up. There's not enough staff and there's not enough money to handle all the problems. Everything's at a high stress level!" ●



Don't forget the Castro Street Fair this Sunday. The entertainment starts at noon with the She Devils and continues with Michael Prince, No We're Not Brothers, Alderson Drive, the folks from *Greater Tuna*, Gary and Gloria Poole, Tom Ammiano, Miss Kitty and the Psycho Souls, the Flips, Lower East Venus with Debora Iyall, Doug Hoisclaw, Jeanine Strobel, Buck Naked and the Bare Bottom Boys, Danny Williams, Blush Productions Dancers, Campus Theatre Dancers, and American English (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## Folsom Crowd Helps Nab Stabbing Suspect

Man Charged with Attempted Murder After Attack at Street Fair

by Will Snyder

Community involvement and planning helped bring a violent situation under control at the Folsom Street Fair on Sunday, Sept. 20. San Francisco police arrested Tobey A. Horne, 220 Turk St., and charged him with attempted murder with a knife. Horne is charged with stabbing a San Francisco man in the back left shoulder.

Police said that witnesses helped to track down the suspect. Planning by officials of Community United Against Violence (CUAV) also helped. CUAV officials expected a possible crowd of 100,000-plus at the street fair and set up a fixed post for police officers Ray Benson and Pat Correa.

The fixed post allowed any of the 35 CUAV monitors to reach police within seconds of reported violence.

The combination of the fixed post and the help of witnesses meant that Benson and Correa could zero in on the stabbing suspect less than four minutes after the initial report of violence.

"This is a big fair anyway," said CUAV's Diana Christensen. "But it seemed certainly larger than before. We knew that the shortage of police help would necessitate setting up the fixed post."

According to the police report, Horne and the victim had spent time together during the fair. Police said an argument broke out about the amount of time the two were to spend together. The police report quoted witnesses as saying that Horne forced the victim behind a bandstand area and stabbed him in the left shoulder blade.

When witnesses chased Horne and demanded that he drop his knife, the suspect shouted, "Stay away, stay, or I'll stab you," the police report said.

The report indicated that Horne tried to escape either among crowds of people or into a local bar on Seventh Street, but witnesses pointed him out to Benson and Correa.

### Alice Holds Awards Dinner

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club will have its tenth annual awards dinner celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of the club's founding. The dinner will be held Oct. 3, in the Pacific Concourse Ballroom of the San Francisco Hyatt Regency, Five Embarcadero Center, San Francisco. A no-host cocktail hour will begin at 6:30 and dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m.

Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass) will be the keynote speaker and entertainment will be provided by cabaret performers Romanovsky and Phillips.

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## EDITORIAL BY DERN

### Molinari for Mayor

John Molinari is my friend. Friendship aside, he is the best choice for mayor of San Francisco. He was born here, educated here, married and raised his family here.

He has been in politics in San Francisco for over 20 years and has the best grasp of what's going on in the city.

Serving as president of the Board of Supervisors for several terms he now chairs the Finance Committee and as such keeps track of the city's budgetary concerns and revenue sources. He has been a friend to our community for over 15 years, and remains so. As an elected supervisor he was one of two politicians to talk to and court the gay vote (the other was Sen. Milton Marks—and they were both Republicans at the time). That was back in 1971 when it wasn't fashionable to do that. He addressed both the Society for Individual Rights and the Tavern Guild, asking their help and advice. He has maintained his relationship to the gay community ever since.

He was a friend of Harvey Milk's and an ally on the board. He was among a coalition of five supervisors who tried to block Dianne Feinstein's bid for board presidency in favor of Gordon Lau, a Moscone appointment, to try and get some ethnic diversity on the board. That was ten years ago and his vast support among the city's minority communities is still there.

From the very beginning Jack Molinari has hired gay people, and his first campaign manager, Ron Smith, is still here running this campaign. He and his wife Louise count many gay people among their personal friends and close confidantes.

One of Jack's opponents, Roger Boas, says that Jack is incapable of being strong enough to run the city. Boas says that he would be the better manager. But as the city's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for ten years, we saw how weak Boas really was. The strong position of the CAO office is no more, most of it having been dismantled and moved to the mayor, or the board of supervisors, during his "strong" tenure.

The other major opponent, Art Agnos, claims that Jack will play to the developers and sell out our neighborhoods and schools. Talk about holier than thou statements. Agnos, seeing himself as a knight on a white horse, says "do what I tell you, not what I do." Agnos is a wholly owned subsidiary of his developer friend in Sacramento. The city Agnos wants to be mayor of is not even where his wife and children live or go to school.



John Molinari gave blood to the gay community in 1972 at a Tavern Guild blood drive at the Casa de Cristal

(Photo: H.I. Leleu)

What we need is a candidate dedicated to the betterment of his city. A city he lives in, works in, and is proud to be a resident of. A candidate not afraid to go to Washington to raise money for AIDS, public transportation, health care, homeless, disabled and the city's arts. A candidate who numbers all members of the city as his friends from the rich to the poor. A candidate who truly cares. That candidate is Jack Molinari. He is your friend as well as mine.

We sometimes take our friends for granted. But we cannot afford to do so now, if we are to have committed and effective leadership from our next mayor.

To choose someone we know will be our friend for the next eight years, we need look no farther than the candidate who has been our friend for the past 15 years. That candidate is Jack Molinari.

Bob Ross

## EDITORIAL

### Home Away From Home

by Phil Johnson

In 1936 there was a wonderful movie with Jeanette MacDonald, Clark Gable, and Spencer Tracy: *San Francisco!* This 11-year-old child left the theater in my hometown, Dallas, determined that one day, when I grew up, I would visit that great city by the bay.

In World War II, I was fortunate enough to be stationed at Camp Stoneman, just outside my magic city. Every time I got a three-day pass, I would take off my khakis and put on my warm wool uniform because, unlike Dallas, summers are cold in San Francisco. Then I would rush to the very heart of my city.

Why? I don't know. There was a feeling of "gayety" in the air. I couldn't explain it, and I couldn't see it — we were so deeply hidden in our closets in those days. But I knew it was there. I could feel it.

After the war and an honorable discharge, I returned to Texas. But I've visited my city many times — every chance I could get. Consequently I've seen the slow and painful emergence of a gay and lesbian culture, the development of a gay community.

I've often wondered if you, the members of that community, are fully aware and appreciative of what you have. Do you remember why many of you fled from your hometowns? Are the stories of the Black Cat still handed down? Do you know of your early heroes who fought so hard for your freedoms?

Are you aware that we outsiders are looking to you for guidance, following in your footsteps, trying to learn from your mistakes?

Where but San Francisco could the first Gay Freedom Band originate? The first Gay Chorus? The first Gay Tap Dancing Troupe?

Where but San Francisco could the Gay Games have originated? Surely I speak for hundreds of athletes and musicians when I say, "Thank you. Thank you for being what you are."

A small army of you must have worked your butts off for months to make sure we were housed, fed, and entertained. We were directed and transported, and God knows we were partied! I heard but one complaint: "My host never lifts the seat when he takes a pee!" But everyone in San Francisco (gay and non-gay) opened their hearts for us.

The Dallas band got on the bus to go to the opening ceremonies. The driver said, "I suppose I'll have to take your money, but I don't want to. You came all the way from Texas to play for us."

A stranger on the BART approached an athlete and said, "Congratulations!" The athlete asked, "For what?" "For winning a Gay Games gold. This medal fell from your ribbon."

In most cities parades go down the street. But at the crowd's insistence, the Circus Parade went around the block — several times. A baton twirler remarked, "It's the parade that refuses to die."

And who with a heart can ever, ever forget the "With the Greatest of Ease" performance in jam-packed Davies Hall? Gay love rebounded from the musicians, to the audience, and back to the stage again.

A group of athletes, from several states and nations, were walking down Market street. A stranger rushed up to say, "Thank you for coming to San Francisco. You've made our city come alive again."

But the greatest thrill was this: although we had been forewarned by athletes from the first Gay Games, we were still unprepared for the wild reception we received as we emerged from the tunnel at Kezar Stadium at opening ceremonies.

It was a moment in time that will live in our hearts forever. All that stomping, shouting and applause — so sustained, so continuous, so lovingly given. This athlete was very certain it would surely precipitate yet another quake.

Up in the stands there was a sign that said it all in four words: "Thank God I'm Gay."

A year has passed since we had to say goodbye to our new friends in San Francisco. Yet when two or more of us get together in Texas, we always talk about that wonderful week.

We can't all live in San Francisco. On the contrary, we must work to bring gay freedom to the rest of the world. Yet, deep in my heart, I will always long to be able to sing,

San Francisco  
Welcome me home again.  
I'm coming home to go  
roaming no more.

**Not Confused**

The following letter was sent to Father Anthony McGuire of Most Holy Redeemer Church.

★ Father McGuire:

I'm responding to your statement about the papal demonstration: "The people with AIDS were renewed by their compassion and love and all I could think about were the people across the street. What did they have when they left? It was such a mean-spirited kind of encounter."

I was at the demonstration, and in no way was it mean-spirited. Angry, yes. Loud, of course. Assertive, definitely. It was remarkably calm, considering the amount of animosity the Vatican has directed at the gay community, and the intense emotion you would expect to be generated.

I question exactly to what degree and to what end the PWAs at the service were "renewed," but I hope they did find some spiritual nourishment from the occasion. The Roman Church has given them precious little support for being different. I can imagine just how much damage has been done to their psyches by the twisted Catholic programming about sex, sin, and separation.

What did the rest of us, at the demonstration, go away with? I can only speak for myself. I experienced a calm sense of self-esteem, a clearer perspective of the divine order and divine intelligence that gave me life on this planet. Self-esteem, because I know the Vatican's preposterous dogmas have no power over me. And because I know the only power is love and that no person in white robes has anything to do with that.

I walked away with deeper self-love, and expanded respect for all of those heretics throughout the present and past who have told their truth, regardless of what the rich, powerful, and manipulative have done.

I do not blame any PWA or gay person for being present for John Paul's activities, or in the Roman Catholic Church in general. Indeed, each of them is a precious gift that can potentially heal the church's cruelty. Spiritual sustenance has to come from somewhere, and if they find a shred in the Roman Church, then who am I to judge?

But, considering the amount of self-hatred and confusion that is encouraged by the Vatican's ignorant approach to same-sex relationships, eroticism, and intimacy, and the tendency to externalize authority, I often question their sense of personal and spiritual direction.

The power of God lies not in the trappings and teachings of an institution. It can only be found in the heart of each one of us. To regard the pope as the "vicar of Christ" is to ignore the Christ (divine flame) of our own beings, which is always there, no matter what kind of sexual expression we adopt.

As David Bohm wrote in his book, *Wholeness and the Implicate Order*: "To be confused about what is and what is not to be confused about everything."

Van R. Ault  
San Francisco

**Type-A-Martyr**

★ While the tone of some recent anti-papal festivities made me wonder if some folks had dragged their anti-Catholic bigotry all the way from Muleshoe to a pluralistic city where it does not belong, your inclusion of St. Paul in the membership roster of the Roman Catholic Church betrays a certain naivete. If Paul were really a Catholic, someone would have found his Baltimore Catechism by now.

Paul was a small-'c' catholic, a member of the pre-schism church. When Paul died (possibly of Type-A Behavior Syndrome, or Kvetch's Disease, either of which may result in martyrdom), the church was a unified but loosely confederated entity presided over by ad-hoc councils of bishops from different geographical areas.

When the emperor wanted them to decide something, they met and took a group conscience, sort of like an AA meeting. Over the years they found that the Bishop of Rome often had the coffee made and the day-old doughnuts bought by the time they got there, and that he had a knack for summing up their opinions. They said, "We've really gotta hand it to him," which eventually, human ego being what it is, became interpreted as Primacy of Place, resulting in the Great Hissy Fit of 1054 A.D.

Two gorgeous drag traditions resulted from this split, but both retained the "Oh, Mary!"

**GAY** people are much more intimidated by St. Paul than they need to be. Must we believe *everything* Falwell says? Paul was (a) not as important as Jesus, who never mentioned homosexuality; (b) not nearly as obsessed with sexual sin as modern Fundies make him out to be; (c) dead wrong about some things like slavery, hair length and the role of women; and (d) probably not anti-gay in the modern sense of what "gay" means.

His use of the terms *arsenokoitai* and *malakoi* ("sodomites" and "catamites" in the Jerusalem Bible) refer either to cult prostitutes (or more likely, I think) slave ownership of boys by rich older men. Partnerships between same-sex couples would have been so common in the Graeco-Roman world, and in the early Church, as to be unremarkable.

John Boswell and others have been trying to tell us for years that homophobia in the church is historically a relatively recent phenomenon. We just can't somehow accept this Good News! When Dr. Boswell's new book comes out next year, which will chronicle more than 800 years of gay Christian marriages, there will be red faces not only in the Vatican, but right here on 15th Street.

Meanwhile, dear, lighten up a little; and while you're at it, light one for me.

Rev. Barry Wichmann  
Pastor, New Life MCC  
Berkeley

**Blaming the Victim**

★ There are some people who say they are helping heal our community of AIDS, when in fact they have many antigay feelings. Even worse are the gay groupies who are following these people.

For example, Louise Hay says (in *Yoga Journal*, July, 1987), that "They (gays) have created a culture that places tremendous emphasis on youth and beauty... Only the body counts... It is almost better to die than to get old. So we have created a disease that kills."

The above philosophy, that we creat 100 percent of our reality, is simply bullshit. Ultimately it blames each of us for our diseases.

The truth is that we are in human bodies, and our bodies are susceptible to disease. And while our thoughts and emotions certainly play an important part in our overall health, let's admit that some things are simply beyond our control. Let's stop using the medieval philosophy of blaming the victim.

Tamar Cohen  
Berkeley

**On Your Knees**

★ Prior to the pope's arrival, several members of the gay community, including myself, were invited to a preview screening of the film video *Down On Your Knees*.

At the conclusion of this video, all viewers agreed to the absurdity and amateurish effort behind the making of this film.

It was recommended that this film not even be reviewed publicly so as to not encourage the purchase or use of such a product.

Yes, we laughed hysterically throughout this video, but only because of how unbelievable such a film could be considered for any kind of distribution.

I suggest the makers take a few courses in film production before venturing on to further endeavors as is planned. A series of similar "gay comedies" is purportedly in the works.

Sorry, Mary, as much as I love you and all you do, this one deserved a scathing review, if any, rather than the soft touch you gave it.

Hopefully this type of exploitation will be stopped before it goes any further.

Jay D. Wilson  
San Francisco

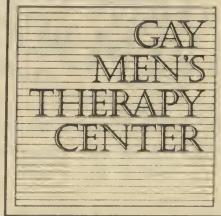
**If Harvey Were Alive**

★ If Harvey Milk were alive today, let's face it, he'd probably be running for mayor himself, and we wouldn't have all this bickering.

Otherwise, he just might be an anarchist, especially if he lost an election after having finally won. We would see well-organized, and massive, and effective mobilization(s) that would blockade the Missouri, encircle the federal buildings so that government would be forced out by the power of the people and not the politicians.

We could then appeal to the United Nations to have recognized sovereign cities and eliminate nations. All for the sake of intimate relations, freedom, and peace.

Mark Schwartz  
San Francisco



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### **LETTERS**

#### **Censorship**

★ The following letter was sent to The Wharehouse.

I have not received a reply from anyone in The Wharehouse management to two requests for an explanation why your stores have not even one male erotic/adult type video tape for rental. When might this situation be expected to be corrected?? Here is my membership sticker in protest. I will rejoin when I feel my choice of selections is honored and respected. Captain Video has no such censorship.

**Ross M. Bauer**  
Daly City

#### **Indefensible**

★ At the risk of stepping on a few skirts (dear Sisters!), let me offer some honest feedback. The gay protests against Pope John Paul II at Union Square and Mission Dolores clearly accomplished this much: they rendered us indefensible against conservative and reactionary positions that we are mentally, emotionally and morally disordered. Indeed, they made us look pretty sick, crazy and completely lacking of any decency, and they acted out exactly what we are told that we are (and which we are not).

We neither dress nor behave in those ways in our daily life, so these carnival forms of protest do not depict who we really are. If anything, they bring utter defeat to the militant substance of our political principles and convictions, not only in the eyes of our adversaries, who readily seize upon them as greater munition for attacking us, but in those who still have little basis to understand us. They objectively isolate serious liberalists struggling to change stereotyped attitudes about us among the masses in the real world, millions of whom were watching.

To Dignity and other gay Catholics, certainly we are incensed at being incensed with nonsense: being told that we may sit at the family table but must be content with empty plates. But if enough of us persist in staying, eventually we, and many more generations like us to come to the table, will be spared eucharistic starvation.

Stay gay, Catholic and proud! We will overcome the monster of misunderstanding from within its own belly, which is how Christianity brought Rome to its knees the first time. Just keep coming back. It works!

**Robby Cruz-Decastro**  
San Francisco

#### **Two-Faced Logic**

★ Brian Jones' editorial (Sept. 10) is nothing short of irrational. It's an obsessive diatribe worthy in style and distortion—if not in exact content—of Jimmy Swaggart. It gives atheism a bad name. It should embarrass every agnostic or freethinker or humanist. And its logic is the same logic of bigots, not of rational folk. I think it is a dangerous, divisive and unfeeling point of view.

He says he (rather "we") "respect the right of individuals among us to break bread with the pope." Then he goes on to say that such an act is "wrong," an act of *betrayal*. I don't respect things that are wrong, nor do I approve of betrayal, and I doubt Mr. Jones does either. What I see here is someone who is *himself* embarrassed at his own bigoted rage, and who is trying to "make nice" by saying "tolerant" things to excuse his calumny.

The tone of his words is typical of the anti-Catholic bigots in KKK-Know-Nothing areas of the South who feel personally defiled by Roman (or Jewish, or Black) presence, and who assume that anyone who can't see their fundamentalist "evangelical" view must be really perverse. Yet the "assimilation" that Jones condemns in Catholics who still commune is what he clearly wishes in reverse, that all of these perverse Dignity folk should come and assimilate with his anti-Catholic stance, the only *obvious* stance.

The only argument he offers for the complete reversal he insists upon is the argument of history. Roman Catholics, he tells us, should leave in droves because their church has a history of bigotry and cruelty that goes back for centuries.

The two-faced quality of his logic is evident if we look at a parallel issue, but one that includes Jones and me. Let's look at America that has supported bigotry against many races at home and abroad for years. It has supported wars in other countries where napalm and phosphorus were poured on civilian villagers gratuitously to torture the psyches of their nations. It has done *nothing* to combat AIDS.

Should I leave such a miserable country, such an immoral and violent institution?

No, because we also have been given other things in America, the spirit of the high ideals found in the Declaration and Constitution, the moral leadership of Martin Luther King and Lincoln and Adlai Stevenson and Harvey Milk.

The history of the Roman Church, with all its horror, is not the summation of all evil. Gay/lesbian Catholics are not "immune" to lesbian/gay martyrs,

any more than I or Jones are immune to the martyrdom of Brian Willson. Such knowledge knifes the human heart. Awareness of such hurt at its best spurns all of us on to great reform and radical reformation, something the church and America clearly needs.

This I do not argue, nor will most Catholics. But the ritual treasures of the eucharist, the warmth of some religious communities, the ecstatic writings of some of the saints, the arts and the culture and the poetry, in short, the *atmosphere* of Roman Catholicism is compelling and a real spiritual nourishment to many who remain within the church.

I do not doubt that some of the protests and criticisms directed toward Rome's homophobia and misogyny should be yet bolder, louder and more courageous. But that's not quite what Brian Jones wants. He wants Catholic "them" to become Jones' "us," nothing less.

In conscience I had to write in protest of someone else who, though gay like me, writes with an unconsciousness and rigidity and disservice equal to the pope. Brian Jones sounds like someone who was raised in some literalist tradition, taught to hate Catholicism, then upon giving up his tradition, kept up the hatred.

He offers the gay/lesbian community an alternative that will do us no more favors than the first: "To be saved, you only have to not be Catholic." Not helpful, Brian!

Tell me, what would happen if the gay and lesbian communities led the straight world instead of followed it by listening to each other instead of mocking each other, and cared for each other as persons instead of hating each other to bits with righteous categories?

**Rev. Mark Belletini**  
Starr King Unitarian Church  
Hayward

#### **Compulsive Letter Writer**

★ The accomplishments, credibility and reputation of John Wahl, so contemptuously ridiculed by James F. Gibbons (letters, B.A.R., Sept. 14), need no defense by me or anyone else, however casually or well acquainted they are with him.

John is a selfless, dedicated, compassionate and amiable man. His personal integrity is unimpeachable and his contributions to a free society defend him.

For my lover and myself he has been and remains a valued legal counsel; a respected theological iconoclast; an uncompromising political foe, and a treasured personal friend.

**Thomas M Edwards**  
San Francisco

#### **CRIR Opposes Bork**

★ The following letter was sent to Sen. Joseph Biden, Chair, Senate Committee on the Judiciary:

Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR), the oldest ongoing predominantly lesbian and gay Republican volunteer organization in the nation, wishes to express its strong opposition to the nomination of Judge Robert Bork to the United States Supreme Court.

We acknowledge that Judge Bork is supported by an array of Republican office-holders and jurists, and that our position may not be popular in some circles of our party. But we believe that ideologues have no place in our highest courts—whether it be an ideologue of the left or an ideologue of the far right such as Robert Bork.

Judge Bork, regardless of his intellect and judicial temperament, is unfit to be confirmed by the Senate because he is out of touch with the spirit of our living Constitution which has served our evolving society so well over the past two centuries.

Judge Bork has failed to embrace the fundamental rights of the individual as embodied in that great document—rights of the individual on which the Republican party was founded 133 years ago. He sees no right to privacy in the 1st, 4th, 5th, and 10th amendments, nor believes that the equal protection clause of the "Republican" 14th Amendment applies to all Americans. His past rulings have favored the rights of legislative majorities at the expense of the rights of minorities.

The founding fathers intended America not to become a "mobocracy." It is a constitutional republic. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to reject Judge Bork's nomination, and we urge Pres. Reagan to nominate a conservative judge who is committed to preserving individual rights for every American.

**Brian Mavrogeorge**  
President, CRIR  
San Francisco

**Actions Louder Than Words**

★ I am sick and tired of reading about how John Molinari has the overwhelming support of the gay community, especially the South of Market crowd. My friend and I attend the weekly Sunday beer busts at The Eagle and enjoy the crowd and the sunshine.

But Sunday, Sept. 13, we were subjected to politics, San Francisco style. Believe me, we were undecided as to who we were voting for until now.

When Harry Britt sold his political soul to Molinari, I was still undecided. But now hearing ol' two-faced Feinstein support Molinari convinces me to support a true fighter for gay and lesbian rights, Art Agnos.

We don't owe anything to Molinari or Feinstein. We provided the votes and they supported us until the Missouri came along. No more nukes and soft-pedaling gay rights. Actions speak louder than words, and Art Agnos has supported gay rights against the likes of Sen. Doolittle and Deukmejian in Sacramento.

**Dennis Patterson**  
San Francisco

**No Endorsement**

★ I was disappointed with the manner in which the B.A.R. reported the Sept. 21 press conference which drew together a group of Harvey Milk's friends and supporters who are now supporting Art Agnos for mayor. The headline of the story was misleading and sensational. Tim Taylor stated, "Agnos is the latest ... candidate to try to unearth an endorsement from the gay political martyr."

A posthumous endorsement was never suggested, in any way, at the press conference. San Francisco Chronicle reporter Mark Z. Barabak, who attended the event, specifically asked if we were suggesting that Harvey would endorse Art if he were alive today. The answer Barabak received from all the participants was an emphatic no.

We were simply stating why we endorsed Harvey Milk for supervisor then, and why it is consistent for us to now endorse Art Agnos for mayor. As Anne Kronenburg stated, "The politics of Art Agnos are the politics of Harvey Milk." Many of the issues Art raises in his campaign are the same issues Harvey raised a decade ago. That was the purpose of the press conference and the endorsement of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of Art Agnos for mayor will continue to express this sentiment.

**Maurice Belote**  
San Francisco

**Thanks, Pope**

★ Personally, I would like to thank the Bishop of Rome for coming to San Francisco. As I scan the letters to our gay newspapers, it's apparent he's done more to raise the consciousness of gay and lesbian people about themselves than any man since Harvey Milk.

**Frederic Millen**  
San Francisco

**Iconoclast**

★ Dear Gay Fathers

I was surprised and confused to find the Gay Fathers organization selling posters of the "canonization" of Harvey Milk as your fundraiser at the Folsom Street Fair. That the remnants of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence should be up to such nonsense almost makes no sense. But why Gay Fathers?

Perhaps, I wondered, you thought this was a good time to provide an alternative to the visit of the "Holy Father," his papal eminence? But do we really need our own gay Father Figure? Then I tried to look at the poster as a joke. But it appears to be a serious icon in the Eastern Orthodox or ancient Roman traditions, complete with halo. Harvey's face on it looks truly beatific, to the point of blandness.

Blandness is one look he never adopted, at least in my memory. The artist is not to be faulted for this, for he admits never having met Harvey the man. Had he known the Harvey we knew, he could have painted him with a lusty leer, a sly smile, or a scream of delight.

The artist might not have written: "Harvey Milk violated many sexual taboos, but he laid his life down for countless other human beings"; but rather, "Harvey broke every taboo he could, and urges us to do the same, lovingly."

Apparently, neither the artist nor Gay Fathers recalled that Harvey Milk would not have appreciated a serious canonization, either. He was an iconoclast who worshipped, if anywhere, at the temple of Opera.

He was also a Jew. Not one who was orthodox in his religion, but more a Jew in the great secular tradition of Sigmund Freud, the Marxes (Karl and Groucho), Eddy Gorme and Mel Brooks. The poster shows Harvey with a Pink Triangle on his armband, but forgets that he would have also had a Yellow Star on his shirt.

The visit of the pope is no time to forget such things. One of the speakers at a protest rally last week reminded us that a major historical root of Christian anti-Semitism is that Rome maintains that the church took over as the true People of Israel — that they are the real Jews.

I'm afraid that the poster of Harvey as a saint perpetuates that same kind of anti-Semitic thinking. Some Jews would not find it a problem; some of us do. If Gay Fathers has a reason for using this particular form of fundraising, I'd like to hear it. If you can now see some of the problems, I think an apology to the gay Jewish community would be in order.

**Mark Freeman**  
San Francisco

**Slap In The Face**

★ After the IOC's demented efforts to deny an honorable gay sporting organization the use of the word Olympics in its title, do you think it wise to now invite the IOC to hold its 1990 competitions in the Bay Area?

In my opinion, even considering such an invitation before the IOC apologizes and withdraws its prohibition against using the word gay demonstrates incredibly poor judgment and is tantamount to a slap in the face for the entire Bay Area gay community. If, by chance, the IOC proves insensitive enough to accept such a tactless invitation, it will surely prove to be the second biggest mistake that now infamous organization has ever made.

**Jerry R. De Young**  
San Francisco

**Hey, Pope!**

★ Hey, Pope! So, homos are in the heart of the church, huh? So, God loves people with AIDS. Hey, Pope, we know that. It isn't God's opinion we worry about. It isn't God's papal letters that lead to gay-bashing in the streets of San Francisco. You know something, Pope? I feel sorry for you and other religious leaders. When you die you will find out that God has no religion. God is God. God created us all. God accepts us all. Your opinion has meaning only inasmuch as it produces pain. Keep your version of God. Who needs it?

**Tadhg O'Shields**  
San Francisco

**Cheap Food**

★ The Gay Rescue Mission has joined SHARE as a member host agency. The Salvation Army and Catholic Charities are the other two main organizations involved. We joined because many gay people don't feel comfortable dealing with the other agencies, and it is important that our people have access to the food.

Anyone can get \$35 to \$40 worth of groceries for \$12 and two hours community service by signing up for the SHARE program. The program is funded, in part, by the city and the American Friends Service Committee. It provides people with a way to get more food for their money. There are no income requirements, and no limit to the number of food boxes a person can get. The food provides a well-balanced diet with meat, produce, staples, and canned goods. Food stamps are accepted.

The sign-up dates for this month's distribution are Oct. 6, 8 and 10 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom. The food distribution date is Oct. 24, and the boxes are picked up from the Mission. For further information, call 431-2188.

**Don Jackson**  
San Francisco

**Parlez Vous Français?**

★ Le premier vendredi soir de chaque mois à 8h nous organisons une fête pour parler français ensemble. Bienvenue à tous les niveaux. Il faut seulement apporter quelque chose à boire ou à manger, comme du vin ou du fromage. La fête du 2 octobre aura lieu chez moi. Pour de plus amples renseignements, appelez-moi pendant la journée au 558-9700 ou le soir au 665-5746.

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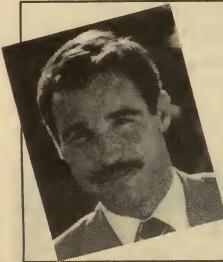
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## Deukmejian On The Fence



Pat Schroeder became part of the pack of those who will *not* seek the presidency in 1988  
(Photo: S. Martin)

**G**ov. George Deukmejian, who himself earlier toyed with the idea of running as a "favorite son" in next year's GOP primary, but later rejected the idea, told reporters this week that he would make no endorsement of a Republican presidential candidate before next June's winner-take-all primary.

Though some had felt that the influential governor was quietly favoring Vice-President George Bush for the nomination, Deukmejian's aides were saying this week that the governor admires Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas as well. He could, in fact, comfortably support New York Rep. Jack Kemp or former Delaware Gov. Pete duPont also.

Deukmejian did say, however, that he tended to "rule out" any support for either television evangelist Pat Robertson or former Secretary of State Alexander Haig, noting that they have never held elective office and therefore lacked a "track record."

Deukmejian, whose endorsement would be a plus for any candidate, considering the large number of delegates the state sends to the national convention, says he hopes to put together a public forum in Southern California in late November featuring all six announced Republican candidates.

The governor also announced this week that he will definitely appoint a replacement for the late State Treasurer Jesse Unruh this month, saying that he will choose from a list that reportedly includes state senators Ken Maddy, William Campbell, and Marian Bergeson, the only woman among those considered, as well as Congressman Daniel Lungren of Long Beach, a Deukmejian ally who represents the governor's home district.

Saying that he had "intelligence and insight," former Mayor Joseph Alioto, who once championed the downtown development boom, last week endorsed Art Agnos for mayor. Agnos' campaign people hope the Alioto endorsement will offset John Molinari's recent endorsement by incumbent Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis has reportedly raised nearly \$8 million in his presidential bid, more than twice that of

any other Democrat.

Singer Dionne Warwick was honored this week by the City of New York for raising more than \$1 million for AIDS research, the royalties from her hit recording of "That's What Friends Are For."

**T**hink it's all glamour being a national political celebrity? Take Geraldine Ferraro, the 1984 Demo vice presidential nominee. Her husband's bribery trial starts this week in New York, and her son John goes on trial next month in Vermont on charges of selling cocaine to a narc. Ferraro, meanwhile, told reporters this week that, referring to her run for vice-president, "I wish now that I had never gone through with it."

Now that the Giants have won the Division championship and are headed for the play offs, there is certain to be more support for the Downtown Stadium, and yes I do hope Proposition W passes.

I keep getting these letters from "lawyer Richard Gayer, "but does anyone really care who is supporting for mayor?

Here we have Jessica Hahn, who had a very brief affair with evangelist Jim Bakker, telling us that she posed naked for Playboy (in the November issue, folks) because "it brought me closer to God." She said that while she was posing for Playboy's cameras in the buff, she asked God for a "sign." Behold, she then looked up and saw a rainbow in the sky. "My miracle came, it's just me and God. That's all I need," Jessica exclaimed (the year of the 'Bimbo,' you say? No way; if the lady can get a "sign from God" and a cool million bucks for posing in the raw, she's definitely no 'Bimbo').

I'm not a betting man, but if I were, I'd lay you odds that Judge Robert Bork will not be confirmed, but that Reagan's

More than a little snickering in political circles at the Agnos ad running in some papers that lists among its "lesbian and gay supporters" the three-year-old son of prominent attorneys V. Roy Lefcourt and Ellen Chaitin (I mean, no doubt any son of Ellen and V. Roy's is smart, but is he endorsing candidates at that early age, to say nothing of determining his sexuality this soon in life).

On a personal note, the New Bell Saloon on Polk Street is hosting an auction/benefit this Sunday, Oct. 3, starting at 2 p.m., for Mark Friese, one of our community's best, and I hope to see you there.

next choice, Utah's Sen. Orrin Hatch will get that Supreme Court seat.

Agnos did pick up the endorsement this week of Wendy Nelder, however, though there is no word of who Wendy's children are supporting.

**J**oe Biden, who reportedly started off his withdrawal statement last week by claiming that "you won't have Joe Biden to kick around anymore," has become the butt of numerous jokes. Not the least of which is an exaggerated version on his resume that is making its rounds on Capitol Hill. Added to Biden's claims about his inflated academic record, the resume lists such distinctions as: "Triple B.S. degrees in political science, history and bionuclear physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Crew Chief, Apollo 13; Grand Marshall, Rose Bowl Parade (1968-69); silver medalist, 1964 Olympic Games; member, Rockettes (1968); Assistant Chief Surgeon, first heart transplant 1963; member of the 1968, 1970, 1971 National League All-Star Team; and the Inventor of polyurethane and the Weed-eater."

Randy Shilts' new book, *And The Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic* (St. Martins Press; \$24.95), hits the stores this weekend and those who have already read the 630 page book say Shilts has a sure bestseller.

I'll get criticized for this, but can someone tell me why Rep. Pat Schroeder cried and carried on the way she did Monday when she withdrew from a race she had yet to enter? If a mere "decline to run" press conference could cause the woman to fall apart as she did, God knows what would have happened had she actually been a candidate and had been driven from the race as with Hart or Biden. As one prominent New York political consultant remarked: "Frankly, it wasn't that tough a day for her. The crying could be a real problem. It is hard to visualize the President crying in front of Gorbachev."

On a personal note, the New Bell Saloon on Polk Street is hosting an auction/benefit this Sunday, Oct. 3, starting at 2 p.m., for Mark Friese, one of our community's best, and I hope to see you there.

## Gay Soul Music



Renato Capocci salutes his master's sexual prowess in a Mozart aria at this year's Opera in the Park (Photo: R. Pruzan)

**A**lthough I will gladly stand through a four-hour production of Handel's *Orlando* or Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier*, I do not consider myself an opera queen. Oh, I can name that tune when it comes to a familiar aria from *La Traviata* or *Aida*. But ask me to hum a few bars of *Billy Budd* or *Schwanda the Bagpiper* and I am at a complete loss.

As to pinpointing the differences between reigning divas such as Jessye Norman and Montserrat Caballe, I am equally hopeless. The only thing I see is what everyone sees, even from the last row of the balcony—they are both enormous.

It is unnecessary to be an opera queen, however, to enjoy events such as Opera in the Park, held Sept. 13 in Golden Gate Park. Consequently, when asked by Don Leighton, a member of the Gay Men's Chorus for eight years and an opera season ticket holder for ten, to attend his annual Opera in the Park party, I jumped at the chance.

"I'll be there at 6 a.m.," Don explained, "so you'll have one of the best seats in the house. And because I've invited nearly 40 people, who knows? Even you might find a husband—provided you can stand one who sings in the shower."

Not quite as eager as Don, I didn't arrive at the park until 10, just in time for the rehearsal before the show. This, Don assured me, is often as enjoyable as the show itself and sometimes lasts as long.

"I'm not good enough," he admitted. "I'm relaxed and can do a reasonably good job if I choose my material carefully, but really good baritones are a dime a dozen. Perry George describes my talent by saying I have an enormous repertoire of music that I can't sing."

Motioning to the vast number of gay men surrounding us, Don theorized that many gay men enjoy opera "because it's the perfect cross of a sensual and spiritual experience."

**A**nother reason, he said, is that gay men, because of their personal histories,

are less likely than others to accept the dictates of the majority or popular culture, one of which is that opera is an outmoded and tedious artform.

By this time, more of Don's friends were arriving, but not the 40 he had invited. Perhaps this was because the fog showed no signs of clearing and the singers didn't include Pavarotti or Domingo this year.

"Usually, I invite only music lovers," noted Don, who has been attending Opera in the Park since its inception over ten years ago. "But this time I got smart and invited the chefs instead. So dig in."

Unfortunately, the concert had hardly begun before I had to leave for work. Still, all was not lost. Since I taped the show at home, when I returned to my apartment that night I settled into an armchair, poured myself a glass of wine, and sang "Libiamo ne lieti calici," the drinking song from *La Traviata*, with the rest of the cast and audience. Although I didn't know the exact meaning of the words, I understood and appreciated the spirit of the thing.

It's the first step, Don says, on the road to becoming a true opera queen. •

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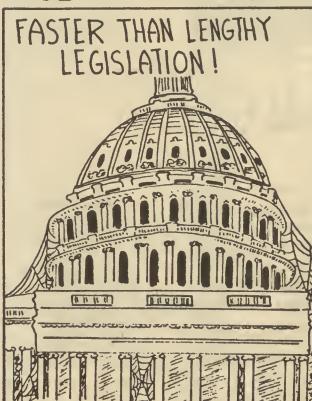
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## LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



## Judge Closes Urine Clinics

**HOUSTON**—A Texas judge has issued temporary injunctions closing three clinics which were treating people with AIDS with injections of their own filtered urine. State District Judge Sharolyn Wood ruled that the clinics operated by William Hitt falsely advertised the treatment's effectiveness. Hitt is not a physician and the treatments he offered are not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Texas Assistant Attorney General Rose Ann Reeser sought the injunctions because she felt the treatment may be dangerous. She advised Hitt to apply for ex-

perimental drug permits from the FDA.

A number of AIDS patients at the clinic stated that their conditions had improved as a result of the treatment. No scientific evidence was presented to support that claim.

"This is going to deprive them of any hope," said Hitt. "We've got a bunch of AIDS patients who depend on it." He said he had lost money on the AIDS treatment.

No further court action has been set.

—Dallas Voice

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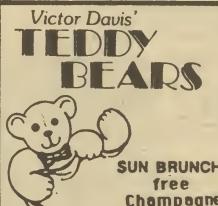
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### Good Loses Council Race

**SAN DIEGO**—Openly gay candidate Neil Good missed out in his bid to become San Diego's first gay city councilman on Sept. 15. Good came in third in that city's Eighth District race with 2,667 votes (20 percent of the vote). He was beaten by Bob Filner who came in first with 3,300 votes (25 percent of the total).

Turnout averaged 24 percent of San Diego's registered voters, up from 16 percent in the city's 1985 city council primary election. In the four seats up for election this time, no incumbents were running. That fact, said observers, probably sparked greater interest in the election.

—San Diego Bravo

tween the smaller and larger courts to plan new activities. "We have a unique ability to raise money," said Empress Nicole of San Diego. "The hard work we put into drag shows, art auctions, and bake sales shows in our bank accounts." The courts have contributed to the upcoming National March on Washington and to Gay Games, among other things, she said.

Empress Jack-E from Reno pointed out that there has been a sudden growth in court memberships. She said that there had been new courts recently established in New York, Toronto, and in Minnesota.

A Break in the weekend conference featured a "fruit float" on rafts down the Boise River.

—New York Native

### QUOTE UNQUOTE

*'There is not a scrap of truth that I am having an affair with my secretary. If I were homosexual, these are not the times to hide it.'*

—Brigitte Nielsen, former wife of Sylvester Stallone, denying she is having an affair with her female secretary.

*'What the public really loathes in homosexuality is not the thing itself but having to think about it. If it could be slipped into our midst unnoticed or legalized overnight by as decree in small print there would be few protests.'*

—E. M. Forster, author of Maurice

*'We're finding that all those old restrictions on behavior had not only a moral basis but a medical basis. Whatever one may think about sodomy from a moral standpoint, it is clearly an unhealthy activity.'*

—Gary Bauer, Reagan advisor

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# Attorney Tries to Disqualify Lesbian in Police Sex Case

## Police Commissioner Juanita Owens Challenged In Probe of Harassment Against Female Officer

by Tim Taylor

A Police Commission probe into allegations of sexual harassment against a police recruit has taken an unusual turn: The attorney for the accused wants Commissioner Juanita Owens disqualified because she is a lesbian.

The commission was hearing an allegation that Janet Scarborough was subjected to a night of sexual mistreatment by her field training officer, Eugene Yoshii. The case was widely publicized and closely monitored by women's groups throughout the city.

After three days of hearings the commission ruled in favor of Scarborough. Yoshii was suspended for 90 days without pay and placed on probation for three years. If he violates department rules during that time he could be terminated. The decision will be appealed.

Courtroom observers were shocked by last minute legal maneuvering by Yoshii's attorney, Michael Mendelson.

Mendelson filed a motion that Commissioner Juanita Owens be disqualified from participating in the hearing. The attorney asserted that Owens' background as a lesbian-rights activist compromised her ability to be impartial.

Mendelson told Bay Area Reporter he made the motion because Owens "was appointed (to the commission) obviously because of her upfront position in the lesbian community. How can she retain that leadership position and be fair in this case?"

### 'LESBIAN CONSPIRACY'

He pointed to a recent article in Coming Up newspaper as evidence that there was in his view, a lesbian conspiracy to railroad a negative decision against Yoshii.

"The lesbians seem to be in the vanguard against violence against women," Mendelson said. "They're promoting this as a spin-off against acquaintance rape. I just felt the train was definitely on the track."

Mendelson noted that Scarborough's attorney, Donna Hitchens, is prominent in lesbian causes and suggested that Hitchens served with Owens on the Commission on the Status of Women. Mendelson said that this relationship further compromised Owen's impartiality.

In fact, the terms of the two



Juanita Owens was sworn in by Mayor Dianne Feinstein in 1986  
(Photo: Rink)

women on the women's commission did not overlap, and both Owens and Hitchens say they do not know one another.

Owens had engaged in pointed questioning of Yoshii, and Mendelson objected to questions he called hostile. "My concern is that hostility translates into bias." Later, Owens voted for Yoshii's termination, rather than the milder suspension.

The effort to disqualify Owens was overruled by Police Commissioner Chairman Louis Girado, who questioned Mendelson's timing and motive in making the motion at the end of the hearing.

Owens declined to comment on the case. She said it is under appeal and could be remanded back to the commission for further review. She was irate at suggestions that she would not be fair in hearing the case.

### AN INSULT

"I could appreciate his concern for his client," Owens said. "As a commissioner, I'm there to render a decision based on the facts."

She said Mendelson's motion "insults my intelligence" and added she is on the commission "to listen to the facts and serve the people and the police department of San Francisco."

One of those monitoring the hearing was activist Del Martin, who has a lengthy record of involvement in women's and lesbian causes. She noted that the case attracted a lot of attention among women who were interested in ensuring that the police department and the district attorney adequately prosecute cases of sexual violence.

Martin said Mendelson was "way out of line. He's just trying to go for dramatic effect. The reason he went to such extremes is he was losing his case. His witness (Yoshii) was very ineffective and he had to come up with something."

Jackie Hale, a staff member with the Commission on the Status of Women said, "I don't think it's remarkable that an attorney would pull out every stop



Del Martin (Photo: Rink)

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# State High Court Won't Hear Claim of Crime Victim's Lover

by Ray O'Loughlin

The California Supreme Court dealt a body blow to the hopes of gay and lesbian couples. The high court recently denied the appeal of a man who sued for emotional distress after witnessing the beating of his lover. The court unanimously refused to review an appellate court ruling that same-sex relationships are "not sufficiently close to permit recovery (of damages) on one witnessing a wrongful injury to the other." The state High Court stated no reason for its action.

G Michael German, attorney for Gary Coon, was astonished and puzzled by the court's move. "I thought we had a good chance with the [state] Supreme Court because they've been very good on victim's rights," said German, adding, "California has led the country in expanding victim's rights."

Citing a related case involving a heterosexual couple (*Elden v. Sheldon*), German had hoped that at worst, the court would have held Coon's case pending resolution of the *Elden* case.

Now, he fears that this denial may signal that the court is backtracking as a result of Gov. George Deukmejian's conservative appointments. "The denial of Coon's appeal may be a part of a general cutback on emotional-distress suits by bystanders," said German.

The suit stems from a September 1984 incident in which Coon witnessed a San Francisco Muni driver assault his lover Robert Ervin. The two men had attempted to board a Polk Street bus when driver Michael Joseph shut the door with Ervin on board and Coon left outside.

When Ervin protested, the driver stopped the bus to let him off and then followed Ervin off the bus. The driver then assaulted Ervin, verbally abusing him and striking him in the face. Coon was present to witness the assault.

Ervin's suit against the city for personal injuries was settled separately. Coon sued in an attempt to establish a precedent for

gay couples to recover damages for emotional harm incurred as a result of seeing an attack on a lover.

The Supreme Court's action lets stand a Court of Appeals ruling that denied Coon had any right to sue. German bluntly accused the Appeals Court of contributing to gay bashing.

"Instead of a decision recognizing that gays form lasting relationships entitled to legal protection, what we got was more of the same legal lip service to gay antidiscrimination laws, the sort of judicial double talk that perpetuates precisely the sort of gay bashing that occurred here," said German.

In that ruling issued in June of this year, all three judges on the panel rendered separate opinions although all agreed that Coon had no case.

Justice James Scott wrote in the majority opinion that "The inclusion of an intimate homosexual relationship within the 'close relationship' standard would render ambivalent and weaken the necessary limits on a [defendant's] liability."

Scott cited previous California Supreme Court rulings, such as the 1968 *Dillon v. Legg* decision, that have limited award of damages to family or marital relationships.

"To include the 'emotionally significant,' 'stable,' and 'exclusive' relationship pled by appellant (Coon) as a 'close relationship' within the meaning of *Dillon v. Legg* would invite dependence upon the personal,

completely subjective viewpoints" of trial judges and juries.

Because gay and lesbian couples have no legally sanctioned means of establishing their relationships, courts have no methods to determine which relationships can be protested by law.

According to Deputy City Attorney Randy Riddle, who represented the City of San Francisco and argued against Coon's claim, "The courts have held that it must be a legally cognizable relationship. Coon wanted to apply the test that the relationship was stable. But that's no test at all. I don't know how you prove or disprove that."

German believes, however, that Coon met the prevailing standard. In recent cases, said German, courts have focused on whether or not a relationship's closeness was supported by factual evidence such as being exclusive and long term and involved the sharing of living expenses and responsibilities.

Justice P.J. White accepted the majority opinion but in his own opinion tended to side with German's view. He wrote that he dissented "from the majority's holding that an intimate homosexual relationship cannot be a significant relationship as a matter of law for stating a cause of action for negligent infliction of emotional distress."

White wrote that to admit gay couples as legally qualified relationships, even though not married, would not present any new dilemmas for courts. Courts commonly must evaluate the close-



Attorney G. Michael German took on City Hall and lost  
(Photo: S. Savage)

ness of a relationship, he said.

"The courts have been determining for some time whether a particular relationship constitutes a significant one. The closeness of a relationship . . . is thus an issue for the court to decide."

White brought up the issue of equal treatment before the law. "Since homosexuals cannot marry, under the majority's decision, they are precluded from ever recovering for negligent infliction of emotional distress," he wrote.

"Coon sought to obtain the same relief for his emotional distress which is granted to other couples in similar, albeit heterosexual, relationships," said Ger-

man. He was disappointed that the Appeals Court majority opinion "did not even address these equal protection issues."

The court also totally ignored recent statutes that expand victim's rights, said German. "The decision ignores California's Victims Bill of Rights and the 1985 amendments to the Unruh Civil Rights Act which are certainly statements by our legislature that gays are to be accorded the same rights as everyone else in our state."

In her concurring opinion, Justice Betty Barry-Deal tossed the matter back into the legislature's lap. She agreed with limiting the standard of a close relationship to a marital one.

But "I write separately to emphasize that it is the obligation of the legislature to examine the question whether people in committed relationships, both heterosexual and homosexual, other than those meeting the legal requirements for marriage, should be accorded recognition giving rise to all, or selected, legal rights are traditionally reserved to married persons."

For the courts to extend rights initiated by the legislature wrote Barry-Deal, "would undermine the legislative function and would postpone, if not excuse, legislative responsibility."

German called that proposal "confused" because this area of law originated in the courts to begin with. "Although the concurring opinion is sensitive to the issues presented by this appeal, for a court to say that it's now up to the legislature to expand upon a judge-made remedy is mixing apples and oranges, if not just dropping the ball," he said.

But German was not dismayed by this setback. "There are other cases out there waiting to be heard," he said, "and I have no problem bringing another case like this to court."

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# Positive

## A Buddy System For Those Who Test HIV Positive

by Mary Richards

**O**ur meeting is held in the offices of what used to be the Stop AIDS Project, at Castro and 18th Street. Two young men, who have asked to retain their anonymity, are sitting next to each other on a couch. While they talk, occasionally one will reach out to touch the other with a gentle hand, as an expression of support. It is not easy to listen to what they are saying. But all of us in the room know that similar words will be spoken many times throughout the coming years.

Leo speaks first. His voice is sure, and he does not hesitate. "I think it's terrifying to test positive," he says. "My lover died of AIDS in October and he was sick for two and a half years. He was on morphine for 13 months. He was bedridden for his last six months. After seeing all that happen, it's terrifying to me to think that I might be going through that same process somewhere down the road."

Mike is younger, and his voice trembles slightly. "I went to get tested and I just knew that I would not be positive. And after the doctor told me, I couldn't believe it; it was just like he had punched me in the face. I sat there for 20 minutes crying. Then I walked the streets. It was like a special feeling all of a sudden to walk down a street and look around and think, 'someday I might not be here.'"

Bill Folk and Steven Abbott are used to listening to expressions of pain and fear. Over the last two and a half years they both have been involved with the Stop AIDS Project. The Project is ended, but they have decided to reach out once again within the community. They feel that people who test HIV antibody-positive need support.

Bill Folk explains how he has become involved in the new project. "I was looking around to see other ways that I could contribute and still be involved in AIDS work," he says. "I was getting a lot of feedback that there was concern about people testing positive. Actually, the personal part was that people closest to me in my life, the people that I'm most intimate with, pretty much are all positive, including my gay brother, which I get kind of irrational about."

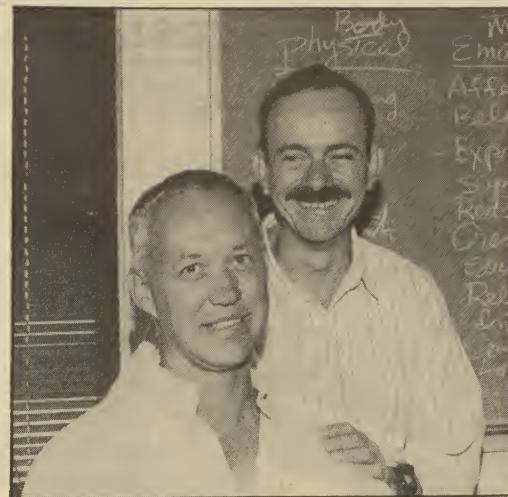
Bill was one of the original founding group of the Stop AIDS Project and was executive director for its last two years. His background is primarily in psychology and counselling, which he has done since 1973.

Steven Abbott was one of the original leaders in the Stop AIDS Project and has led over 100 group support meetings in the last two and a half years. He was on staff for a year, both as volunteer coordinator and outreach coordinator. As well as his work on the antibody-positive groups, he is currently doing trainings for Stop AIDS Projects in cities throughout the country.

"People would come to groups and ask, 'O.K., what's next?'" Steven says. "I'm sero-positive myself and through leading groups probably have met 500 men in this community. I started to look at how many people I

knew were positive, and the quiet craziness that we were all experiencing."

The antibody-positive support groups have been specifically designed to accommodate only eight people in each session, and there is an eight-week minimum commitment. This initial format



Bill Folk (l.) and Steven Abbott

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

is flexible, and will depend on how people involved in the groups respond. There is a fee for the sessions, and as Bill explained, some insurance plans will pay for group counselling and group therapy.

A buddy system has been set up at the groups, and Mike and Leo were paired together. "My

first meeting was a real 'up' for me," Leo says. "It was just a load off my mind that I could talk about it frankly with other people. I think there's a tremendous amount of support in being with someone that feels like you do, and is in the exact same situation."

Abbott says that one of the

things they will explore in the group sessions is "bringing joy into our lives. Initially, testing positive was terrifying and it still is. But there's a certain edge in my life now that was not there before. I'm still looking at what do I want to leave the planet having done, and one of the things I want to do right now is to create some joy in the lives of people who have tested positive. And to bring some celebration back to the gay community, which I think has been absent for far too long."

Folk describes the theory of the antibody-positive support groups as an extension of the work of the Stop AIDS Project. "The Project was not just about AIDS and prevention, it was about community, and it was about a new kind of community, a new way of interacting and interfacing with one another that I think really has never existed before. For me, this is also a way of developing that sense of community."

For further information on the antibody-positive support groups, contact Bill Folk at (415) 621-7177.

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Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

# AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines

## SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Mutual Consent
- Mutual Protection
- Social Support
- Body Image
- Voice
- Risk

## The Safe Sex Card

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## UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES

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*can we talk?*

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## THE *Hot 'n Healthy* TIMES

## CONDOMS STOP AIDS VIRUS

## Obscene

(Continued from page 1)

vities are safe, possibly safe and unsafe, for transmission of the AIDS virus.

"The idea of criminal prosecution for distributing this material is absurd on the face of it," San Francisco Health Director Dr. David Werdegar said Tuesday. "There is a distinction between what is important information and what is obscene. This is not obscene."

**'The materials which are under attack by reactionary groups are in wide use today.'**

—Tim Wolfred

It is distributed using their money or our own."

Many of the banned materials continue to be circulated in San Francisco because Werdegar has strongly supported them.

"It is important to say that the AIDS Foundation and the San Francisco Health Department have worked hand-in-hand on this since the beginning," Werdegar said Tuesday. "When they take off against the AIDS Foundation they are taking off against the San Francisco Health Department."

Other California cities are not so fortunate. The Sacramento AIDS Foundation purchases much of its material from the San Francisco foundation. But the state ban on explicit, gay-related items leaves the group without any "effective materials" for high-risk groups in Sacramento, Yolo, El Dorado and Placer Counties.

Sacramento AIDS Foundation health educator Lisa Brodkey told the Sacramento Bee newspaper, "We will distribute generic literature, but I don't think they'll read it much. By not having material that appeals to target groups, we may be losing contacts."

The state has approved 21 specific items, mostly targeted at

banned items.

### AUDIT UNDERWAY

The state AIDS office already is conducting such an audit. One result: The San Francisco AIDS Foundation no longer will send out information requested on the Northern California AIDS hotline.

Said Lyn Paleo, educational director for the foundation, "There is now a phrase in our contract with the state which prohibits the distribution of any sexually explicit material—whether

straight people or minority groups, and all written in much less explicit language (see accompanying list).

The censorship of AIDS prevention literature follows a 1986 policy of the state AIDS office saying that slang or explicitly suggestive materials would be banned. A year earlier, the state told AIDS educators that "clinical or descriptive terms, rather than their slang or street-language equivalents," should be used.

### LATIN DERIVATIVES'

Tim Wolfred, executive director of the S.F. AIDS Foundation, said that education material must be "explicit and hard-hitting" if it is going to be effective. "They're not going to connect with some dry thing with Latin derivatives, and they will go on spreading AIDS," Wolfred said.

"These are hard-hitting and quite explicit pieces on how the AIDS virus is transmitted, and is not transmitted," Wolfred said at a press conference Tuesday. "The materials which are under attack by reactionary groups are in wide use today. Among our clients are the states of Illinois, Florida and Alaska."

Said Werdegar, "The genius of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is celebrated all over the world. If you are going to talk about transmitting AIDS you have to talk about sex."

Wolfred said that AIDS prevention education has been proven to prevent the spread of AIDS. He cited an ongoing federal study in San Francisco which charts the new infection rates of AIDS among gay and bisexual men.

In 1984, an 18 percent transmission rate was recorded, dropping to 5 percent in 1985. By the end of 1986, Wolfred said, new transmissions were "near zero percent."

The federal study randomly recruited 1,000 gay or bisexual men from 19 San Francisco neighborhoods in 1984. The men are regularly tested for AIDS

antibodies and other markers of infection.

Another study also supports the effectiveness of the San Francisco approach, Wolfred said. The state has charted a 50 percent rise in syphilis this year—but San Francisco has charted a 50 percent drop. There were only 97 cases of syphilis recorded in San Francisco for the first half of 1987.

Werdegar, asked if an AIDS prevention campaign could be conducted without sexually explicit materials, paused and answered, "No, I don't think so."

### STATE CENSORSHIP

"These materials are hard-hitting but they tell the truth and they change behavior," Werdegar said. "We have to convey information in a way that is effective. In order to change behavior it has to strike home emotionally."

The AIDS Foundation literature is screened by a community advisory board before it is released, Werdegar said. He called the panel "highly representative" of minority groups, straight people, and women—in addition to the hardest hit group, gay and bisexual men.



Tim Wolfred (Photo: Rink)

on record saying that he would pay for anything with taxpayers' money that borders on pornographic or obscene."

Republicans were gleeful in their attack on AIDS education

**'There is a distinction between what is important information and what is obscene. This is not obscene.'**

—Dr. David Werdegar

"The state has been a lot more of a pain in the tush than the federal government," Werdegar said. "The federal government has allowed us to use our own citizens' advisory committee to screen material."

The state process is to censor AIDS material at the state government level. The state AIDS office screens items through its AIDS Material Review Committee, banning anything deemed explicitly sexual.

Said Thelma Frazier, chief of the AIDS office, "This administration is very, very conservative. The governor did not want to be

over the weekend. State Sen. John Doolittle (R-Folsom) told the San Francisco Examiner, "I like what happened here today. We tubed the Surgeon General's report. We took off on that nasty, pornographic AIDS literature, which needed to be done."

### APPROVED

- AIDS Antibody Testing at Alternative Test Sites
- AIDS Kills Women and Babies
- AIDS LIFELINE
- AIDS Medical Guide
- AIDS Research Guide
- AIDS and the Health Care Worker
- AIDS in the Workplace
- Alcohol Drugs & AIDS
- Coping with AIDS
- Family Guide to AIDS
- Getting Your Affairs in Order
- Information for People of Color
- Lesbians and AIDS
- Play Safe Condoms (for display purposes at education events ONLY)
- Poppers and AIDS
- Some People Think You Can Catch AIDS from a Glass (poster)
- Shooting Up and Your Health
- Straight Talk About Sex and AIDS
- When a Friend Has AIDS
- Women and AIDS
- Your Child and AIDS

### NOT APPROVED

- Can We Talk?
- Fact vs. Fiction
- Guidelines for AIDS Risk Reduction
- Hot 'n Healthy Times
- I.V.D.U. Bleach poster
- Play Safe Condoms
- Safe Sex Cards for Women and Men
- THE WORKS: Drugs, Sex and AIDS (a comic book for I.V.D.U.'s)

# Going, Going, Gone!

## The Baybrick Inn Closes Its Doors After Five Years

by Dianne Gregory

When Clementina's Baybrick Inn opened in the late summer of 1982 it caused a revolution in the lesbian bar scene in San Francisco. When the Baybrick Inn closes its doors for the last time Oct. 3, it will not only mark the end of an era in the South-of-Market dance club scene, it will be the end of a whole genre of gay bar.

Lauren Hewitt, co-owner of the Baybrick Inn (with Rick Carver and Mark Cornils, who used to own the Atherton Hotel), saw her vision come true when Clementina's Baybrick Inn opened Aug. 15, 1982. She had seen the "obvious need for an upscale entertainment complex predominantly for women," in the burgeoning masses of lesbians gathering in Baghdad by the Bay.

"I wanted women to be proud enough to bring their men friends and their family," said Hewitt. "I wanted to create an interesting, clean, friendly environment."

★ ★ ★

*The first time I went to the Baybrick, in the summer of 1983, I wore my usual Tallahassee bar regalia: jeans and a T-shirt. When I arrived and saw all those women dressed in business suits with leather briefcases leaning against their chairs, I thought I had walked into the wrong bar. I mean, the only women dressed in business suits I ever saw in Tallahassee were connected with the Florida Legislature in some way, and certainly weren't interested in me. But then I noticed that the women in the Baybrick were most obviously interested in each other and I thought, "This really must be the big city."*

★ ★ ★

The other major "women's bars" in the city at that time, Amelia's and Maud's, are still owned and operated by Rikki

Streicher. Streicher and Hewitt never saw themselves as competitors, Hewitt said in a recent interview, because Streicher is more interested in supporting women's sports. Both Maud's and Amelia's sponsor at least one team in the San Francisco Pool Association, not to mention Streicher's interest in the Gay Softball League and both Gay Games. Hewitt is more interested in supporting women artists and entertainers.

Many women entertainers got their start at the Baybrick, including The Blazing Redheads, Impulse F, Ogie Yocha, Mimi Fox, Pamela Z, Lady Bianca, and a host of comedians. Others furthered their careers at the Baybrick, such as Marga Gomez, Monica Palacios, Debbie Saunders, Linda Hill, and many others. There was always art on the walls of the Baybrick, giving exposure to visual artists who have trouble breaking down the uptown gallery doors.

"There is just nothing quite like the Baybrick," said Gomez. "It was a really nice room to work in. I feel spoiled from it."

"The Baybrick was my home," said comedian Danny Williams. "The two bars most essential to our community are the Baybrick and the Eagle."

★ ★ ★

*I gave up on the Baybrick for awhile after my first visit and only returned to interview a local artist whose work was up on the walls of the bar. We got along famously and are now lovers. We go back there to celebrate our anniversary and occasionally to catch a show.*

*The last time we went to the Baybrick was to see how Marga Gomez' Gay Comedy Night was coming along, and I got roped into a "winking" contest because I chose to walk in front of*



The cozy atmosphere of the Baybrick will be no more

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



Almost anything could happen at the Baybrick

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

*the stage on my way to the bathroom as the contest was being announced. It was embarrassing and kind of fun, and I will never forgive Marga.*

★ ★ ★

The last year or so has seen a handful of women's bars open that have taken business away from both Hewitt and Streicher. Francine's in the Castro, Code Blue, the weekend-only disco, and Elaine's on Valencia have all added to the competition. Not that it wasn't always a struggle.

"Many gay women's attitude is that if it's a lesbian bar it can't be all that great," said Hewitt. "The Baybrick is actually more elegant than a lot of straight clubs, but these women don't realize what they have. It's a ghetto mentality."

Hewitt says the economics of running the Baybrick have always been hard because in order for the bar to be stylish and have live entertainment the overhead must be higher than your usual gin joint. It is also in a neighborhood without a lot of foot traffic so that the women who went to the Baybrick had to make an effort to get

there, either in their own cars or by bus or taxi.

"We were never a neighborhood gay bar," said Hewitt. "We were an entertainment club."

★ ★ ★

*My lover and I went to visit the Baybrick last week to say our goodbyes to the place where we had gotten to know one another and had spent so many pleasant hours. There were less than 20 people in the place during the evening cocktail hours where there used to be at least 50. It seemed so sad to me that such a pleasant place to gather is to be no more. I almost felt as if someone in my family had died.*

★ ★ ★

Hewitt says she will have fond memories of the people who worked for her and for the friend-

ships she made, not only with them but with the entertainers she booked. She also says she will miss not having a space to hang art. She says she will try to forget the people who misinterpreted her motives when she tried to encourage men to patronize the bar.

"I will not miss the separatist women in my face over that issue," she said. "I would love to have been able to keep the Baybrick alive and I wouldn't close it if I didn't have to, but it is the changing of an era. I will close the doors with grace, dignity, and pride."

As for the future, Hewitt wants to try her hand at representing entertainers and booking club dates. She also plans to attempt to sublease the upstairs portion of the bar for a small hotel. ●



Blush Productions got its start at the Baybrick  
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

### The Show Must Go On

In spite of the closing of the Baybrick Inn, Sue Fink and Mary Gemini will still appear at the Baybrick, 1190 Folsom, on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. Admission price is \$5. ●



Marga Gomez (r.) played Sally Jessie Rafael to Lauren Hewitt's 'guest' at a recent gay comedy night at the Baybrick  
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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## DEATHS

### Sanford Aschinger

Sandy (born Mar. 30, 1928), a unique individual of a man, a man of humor, wit, vitality, originality, taste, talent and great generosity, died of ARC at the Coming

Homes Hospice on Sept. 16. He had been there six months to the day. He didn't like it. Not because the staff of the hospice were anything less than fantastic, but more because Sandy was no longer free to

have his cappuccino where, when and with whom he wanted. He was a free spirit who followed his own muse to wherever it took him, and he never did otherwise until his illness. That is the only thing about Sandy that is sad.

All of his life he was an artist. A painter, a sculptor. He did collage, assemblage, and in the last years, jewelry, some of which he sold as a street artist. He also danced with Martha Graham. He was not quite like anyone else and he leaves all of his numerous friends the gift of that originality.

Therefore on Sunday, Oct. 10, 1 p.m. at Sunken Meadow, Golden Gate Park, (JFK Drive, behind the DeYoung Museum), there will be one of Sandy's favorite events, a picnic. All of his friends are invited with their own picnic baskets to join us for this remembrance.

### Albert E. Jones

A memorial benefit gathering for Albert E. Jones will be held Saturday, Oct. 3, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco. Everyone is welcome to share in the remembrance of our friend, Albert Earl.

### Martin Xero

Tender brother. Fabulous queen. Keeper of the forest dampness. Holy priest of tragedy and comedy. Tearful lover. Lover of the edge. Lived on the edge. Manic one. How we all miss you.

How we love you. How you made us laugh. How you made us cry. Oh, holy child. Your tender face. Your eyes of mercy. Loving you was never easy. And all the better for it. Your diagnosis surprised no one.

Your quick death was as shocking as it was merciful. And what a void you've left here. Your family mourns. Your lovers grieve. Your friends remember. Oh, your courage, your strength. You lived it fully, I can bear to say goodbye. Oh God, Martin, how I love you. I just can't believe you're gone. Give our love to all the rest. We miss you all.

Born Kenneth E. Allison, Sept. 25, 1948; died Sept. 11.

### Charles EsDorn Harley

In San Francisco, Sept. 10, after 15 months of illness; aged 42 years; a native of Newberry, South Carolina. Services were held in Walterboro, South Carolina.

Friends are invited to remember Charley's life at his home, Saturday, Oct. 3, from three to six o'clock in the afternoon.

### Eddie Jolly Clyde Tatro

Eddie "EJ" Jolly and Clyde "Joanie" Tatro, were Tenderloin street partners and constant companions. They died on Aug. 28, within hours of each other, but not within reach of each other. EJ was in St. Luke's hospital, and Joanie in their hotel room. They did not die in the arms of loved ones, but alone and separated not only from each other, but also from those of us who cared for them and tried to help them as they struggled with the problems of poverty, homelessness, and AIDS-related illnesses during their last few months.

A memorial service was held for them at the hotel where they were finally welcomed in the last few months of their lives. Friends shared stories of EJ's and Joanie's legendary generosity and humor. Even in the face of their own suffering, they would make other people feel warm and could put a smile on anyone's face.

They cared deeply for those around them in the Tenderloin, especially for Terri, who died in December 1986, also on the streets. They continually struggled to get care for the other one, never complaining for themselves.

We have all been touched by knowing them. In their name we will fight for the rights of all people with AIDS and ARC to die with dignity.

## Obituary Policy

We must restrict obits to 200 words. We prefer double-spaced, typewritten obituaries, but will accept hand-written ones as long as they are legible and are double-spaced. And, please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity and taste.

for research for AIDS — and to me it should be unlimited. We're losing too many wonderfully gifted people, at too young an age."

He called the National March office in D.C. and was excited to hear that there are over 1,000 people on buses scheduled to arrive from New York. He made some other calls — one to his parents to announce that he would be attending the march.

"I was talking to my mom and dad a couple of weeks ago and I told my mother I didn't have a camera," Ray comments. "She sent me a camera — with film to take pictures!"

John-Michael Olexy and M. Janet Allen  
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Susan Kay has worked with Gay Cable Network as a news announcer, and enjoys doing comedy as well. She sometimes does a teaching stint, sponsored by the DMV, at the Let Us Amuse You, Laugh and Learn Terrific Traffic School. There she meets, she says, "people who enjoy violating on the road — and I enjoy punishing them for their driving sins."

She will accomplish two things by going to the National March. "To put it succinctly," Susan declares, "my purpose in going to Washington, D.C. is to mount Fawn Hall." Then her serious side takes over and she continues: "I want to include something funny in my statement, because a lot of dykes have the reputation for being unfunny — and it's important to maintain your sense of humor."

"I feel compelled to be one of the lesbians making ourselves visible, gathering in immense numbers and making the capital and the nation aware of our angry presence."

Susan speaks of the vital part which lesbians play in the community, and why their presence at the National March is so important.

(Continued on next page)



Steven Russell

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



Susan Kay

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

## March

(Continued from previous page)

"Lesbians have always been on the forefront of minority movements," she explains, "supporting people who lack the integrity or the interest to fight for themselves. There's a tremendous iniquity of power in this country, and we must examine the source of this problem in order to create more balance and harmony in our part of the world.

★ ★ ★  
*"I knew it was a once-in-a-lifetime thing."*

John-Michael Olexy is employed by the government and will be staying with a straight friend in Washington. They will attend the march together. He uses the word "solidarity" to describe his main reason for the trip to Washington.

"I think it's going to do more for the folks who participate than it will do to change things," John-Michael explains. "It will bring us closer together. We have been suffering so much. I think we're going to become closer and stronger."

He recalls with humor his first active part in a demonstration for

black workers in San Francisco years ago. His wife was a black woman, and John-Michael called her when the police told the demonstrators they were to be arrested.

"I called my wife Juanita," he says, "and said 'I'm going to be arrested if I don't leave. What do you think?' She said, 'If you have to call me to see if you should be arrested, you better come home!'"

Now, John-Michael says, "I support and admire the people who will be involved in civil disobedience — they're the ones who will be dragged off, and they're the ones who will be in the news."

★ ★ ★  
*"We are the general public."*

Dan Turner is involved with A Time To Shine and was diagnosed with AIDS five-and-a-half years ago. He will be in Washington and explains what the march means to him: "I'm hoping that lots of people go and that it will be a large showing for gay rights. I also support the civil disobey-

dence action at the Supreme Court. I don't think the time for marching is over — now during the AIDS crisis we need to show a strong force in Washington.

"We have a lot to be angry about. We have over five years of inaction from the federal government around AIDS. I've lost practically all my friends and I really am bitter about it. I think that if research had started sooner we would have been much further along in terms of treatment. And a lot of my close friends and professional people that I've worked with would still be alive. People talk about the fear of AIDS spreading to the general public. We are the general public."



### Volunteers Needed For National March

Like any major event, the National March on Washington will need volunteers to assist in all phases of production for the largest lesbian and gay rights march in the history of the U.S.

Be a part of history. Join the March on Washington Volunteer Task Force by sending your name, address, telephone number, travel schedule and area of skills or interest to: Volunteer Coordinator, National March on Washington, P.O. Box 7781, Washington, D.C. 20044.

Please try to sign up prior to going to D.C. If you are not able to register your name in advance, please check in with the national office when you arrive to see how your help can best be utilized. ●

### Natl. March Organizing To Help Disabled

The National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights has announced plans to organize a special contingent for persons with disabilities within the Oct. 11 March and to make every logistical consideration necessary to accommodate the needs of the disabled community on the March itself.

Vans, cars and open-air vehicles will be used to transport people with disabilities and people with AIDS who wish to ride with their contingents. Wheelchairs and wheelchair pushers will also be available throughout the March.

Hotels are being booked and housing accommodations are being made in facilities that are wheelchair accessible. Many of these hotels are within a few blocks of the wheelchair accessible D.C. Metro System.

Sign language interpreters for the deaf and hearing-impaired are being lined up for both the morning rally at the Ellipse and the afternoon rally at the Capitol on Oct. 11.

For more information, contact the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights at (415) 861-5536 or call Bruce Rose at (404) 239-0222. ●

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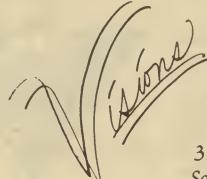


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## Stanford Begins Study Of AIDS Treatments

Stanford University School of Medicine is one of 11 institutions selected to participate in a national program to develop new treatment approaches for AIDS. Health and Human Services officials said Wednesday, Sept. 23. The overall goal of the federally funded program—an alliance between private industry, government and academic research—is to devise and speed up the application of new approaches to the therapy of AIDS and HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infection, said Dr. Edgar Engleman, associate professor of pathology and medicine, and principal project investigator at Stanford.

The 11 institutions will receive approximately \$10 million in the first year from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The program is unusual in that it encourages a close partnership between academic and industrial scientists.

"AIDS presents an enormous challenge," Engleman explained in an interview. "Basically, the government is saying 'Let's see if we can work better and faster than we have in the past at collaboration between industry and academia.'

"This is not just basic research, trying to figure out how the AIDS virus works," he added. "What we're looking at is a variety of molecular biological and immunological approaches, all of which are highly experimental. We're looking for new ideas about how to treat AIDS."

The treatment testing program began in 1986 when five research centers were established. The addition of the 11 new groups brings to \$68 million the total projected funding for the program for 1987 through 1992.

The Stanford group is collaborating with researchers at Gene Labs in Redwood City, a company with which Engleman has a consulting relationship. An investigator from the National Institutes of Health is also involved with the Stanford-based group, Engleman said.

"This program strongly encourages cooperation between private industry and academia because private industry is better at bringing discoveries from the lab bench to practical applications," Engleman said.

"However, the funds will not be used to conduct clinical trials in patients. Rather, they are being used to bring basic new ideas through the research phase," he added.

Some of the projects that Stanford and Gene Labs will be working on include: "killer" cells

also be screening the potential drugs for their effects on the healthy immune system, because we are seeking to develop compounds that work well against the virus but do not affect normal cells," he added.

Stanford and Gene Labs have worked out a patient agreement whereby Stanford will hold patient rights to products developed at Stanford and Gene Labs will retain rights to work done there, Engleman said.

This is the second year in a row in which Stanford Medical School has been selected by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for funding in a national, multi-institutional AIDS research program. Last year, Stanford Medical School was one of 14 medical institutions to establish an "AIDS Treatment Evaluation Unit," as part of a \$100 million, five-year federal study to test potential drug treatments in AIDS patients. •

## Pauling Institute Urges Federal Vitamin C Study

The Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine, Palo Alto, has recommended to the President's Commission on AIDS that the commission report a vigorous research program on the possible value of large doses of vitamin C in preventing and treating AIDS. The institute said a research program should be initiated and that the vitamin be immediately used by people with AIDS, without waiting for the results of controlled trials.

The proposal was made by Dr. Ewan Cameron, Medical Director of the Linus Pauling Institute, and Dr. Emile Zuckerkandl, President and Director of the institute. Zuckerkandl emphasized that the vitamin C treatment of AIDS patients and carriers of the HIV virus can begin immediately, without the need to spend several years on toxicity and dosage studies.

Dr. Cameron pointed out that he and physicians in Scotland and Japan have treated more than a thousand cancer patients with high-dose vitamin C. Cameron said that it has been reliably estimated that at least 100,000 cancer patients in the United States are now taking high doses of this vitamin.

Dr. Zuckerkandl and Prof. Linus Pauling have pointed out that some patients with AIDS are so seriously ill that aggressive use of vitamin C is justified in the effort to save the patient's life.

This aggressive use would in-

volve the administration of large amounts of sodium ascorbate, a form of vitamin C, by continuous intravenous infusion. Amounts as large as 100 grams per day have been administered by intravenous infusion. Persons taking vitamin C by mouth have ingested large amounts, from 10 to 130 grams per day, for years with no serious side effects.

Dr. Ewan Cameron was for many years chief surgeon of Vale of Leven Hospital, Lochlomond-side, Scotland. Dr. Emile Zuckerkandl, a distinguished molecular biologist, founded the Research Center of Macromolecular Biochemistry in Montpellier, France, and was its director for eleven years, until he resigned and came to the Linus Pauling Institute ten years ago. Dr. Linus Pauling is Research Professor in the Institute. He is co-author with Dr. Cameron of the 1979 book "Cancer and Vitamin C." •

From a press release by the Linus Pauling Institute.

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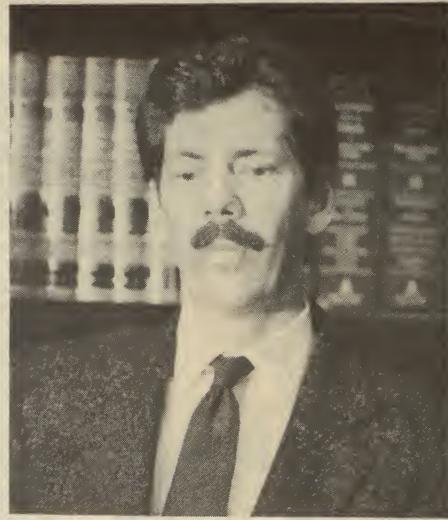
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Dennis May

(Photo: BAR)



Atty. Paul Wotman tries another method of violence

(Photo: BAR)

## Ax Attack

(Continued from page 1)

window. Failing to gain entry, Martini, May and their friends got into their cars to leave. Then their nightmare began.

According to the lawsuit, May then "heard screaming and yelling from two people (allegedly Joseph and Patricia Martini) coming from the garage of the residence across the street from the Sotherden residence."

As the Martinis approached the cars, they yelled "fags," "you fucking faggots," "pimps,"

"prostitutes," and other antigay epithets, says May in his lawsuit. Then the two raging parents "launched a furious and vicious attack on the vehicles by striking and smashing the windows and exterior of the vehicles with golf clubs."

The attack was so violent, according to the suit, "as to actually puncture the metal of the hood on (one) vehicle . . . in addition to severely denting the sheet metal of the vehicle." One golf club even broke in two during the onslaught.

After smashing the car windows, Martini's father "continued to attempt to strike Michael Martini through the broken windows with the broken golf club," states the suit.

### 'KILL'

May then left his car to subdue Martini's father who turned on May and began beating him on the head with the golf club. During the scuffle, May received a large gash on the back of his head, stab wounds on his legs, and numerous bruises on his face, chest and abdomen.

While that was going on, grandfather Howard Sotherden ran from his garage wielding a three-foot long ax. He charged after Richard Shaug, yelling that he was going to kill him. Sotherden also attempted to strike May with the ax. But he "narrowly missed him because (May) quickly rolled to avoid being struck and then scrambled to his feet to escape," according to

the suit.

The four men then managed to get away in their damaged cars.

May's suit against the Martinis and Sotherdens accuses them of assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and violation of the "right to be free from any violence, or intimidation by threat of violence, because of their sexual orientation," as stated in California's Ralph Act. The Ralph Act was amended only last year to add sexual orientation to its list of grounds for legal action by victims of violence.

Attorney Paul Wotman, who is representing May, believes this is the first court case to test the amended Ralph Act. "These men

were attacked because they were thought to be gay. The parents were so angry because their son was gay," said Wotman.

"It was an unprovoked, pre-meditated attack," charged Wotman, "a discriminatory attack as clear as you'll ever see."

Wotman cited the incident as an example of the rise in violence against gay people in the last two years. He said he hoped this lawsuit would help stem that tide of violence. "This kind of thing has to stop," he said.

Sotherden and the Martinis face a pre-trial hearing Oct. 29 in San Mateo Municipal Court on criminal assault charges. The charges brought against them, however, are only misdemeanors.

# ALL GOOD THINGS must come to an end



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## Inter Galactic Crowning Glory

**CHEVELURE, DULCETRILY!**  
(An Awaiting Nose)

From its opening, with a somewhat controversial invocation, to the comparatively predictable outcome, the Imperial Star Empire's Coronation '87—Inter Galactic Odyssey—is now a matter of history.

And speaking of history, it does repeat itself. This is the ninth Coronation in Alameda County that I have attended that didn't start on the advertised time. This year's reason is: The spaceship designed for the opening number of the then-current Court was too big. It had to be dismantled to get it into the auditorium, and once backstage, it couldn't be reassembled in the too tight quarters.

Plan "A" had to be scrapped, and an alternate "entrance" was put into immediate rehearsal. It was impressive, but the "fog" almost choked the participants before the curtain was opened.

In events such as this, there is invariably one "show stopper." Coronation '87 was no exception. Emperor David's "Modesto daughter" did a fantastic rendition of "Look for the Rainbow," and received a well-deserved standing ovation. What made this particular fete unique is, Tarr is only eight years old!

Those that came in costume "of theme" had some quite original and outstanding creations. Winning the in-town male and female were, respectively, Emperor IV Doug and Empress

VII Lady Johnny. The out-of-town male and female winners were from Reno, and the best presentation in-theme was awarded to the contingent from Modesto. The much delayed command performance by Lady J was worth the wait, and she too received a standing ovation.

Recognition was given to Terry and Marge for their outstanding services (why does it always have to be emphasized that they are straight?), and the Court's Humanitarian award(s) went to two very deserving individuals, Val Sousa and "Have you got a dollar?" Paul Moulton.

The final walks of Emperor and Empress VIII were both nostalgic and relieving for the individuals. Mama Chuckles' gesture of tossing her heels into the audience before her walk must have been indicative that she was glad it was over—at least for her, not her other half!

Participating in the ceremony of crowning were dowager Empresses Stephanie, Cha Cha, Lady Johnny, and Lady Billy; the dowager Emperors involved were Doug and Paul. Kneeling before the gathered throng, accepting their duties and responsibilities, were the new Emperor and Empress IX elect, Carlos and Tootsi! After a grueling year, one wonders what they will toss into the audience!

Congratulations to the two of them, and their soon-to-be-

named Court and Family. They have a tough act to follow and an even tougher row to hoe.

### NETTOGROF TON TUB ENOG (Eson Noitome Dexim A)

Yes, it's true. As of Saturday, Oct. 31, Revol will be just a memory. The building has been sold, and the new owners are going to convert it back into six store fronts.

Feelings are a little too sensitive right now to mention much more. Suffice it to say, "There's a 'There' Here" will become a "was," yours truly won't have to walk on eggs with his column anymore, and the vultures awaiting the plucking will have to dig into their pocketbooks at an upcoming auction. (The body isn't even cold yet, and "they" already want this or that!)

We've heard several congratulations, and a lot more "I'll be sad to see it go."

Oh well, parts is parts, aren't they?

### POTPOURRI (A Melange Nose?)

It was announced at the coronation that BASH has indeed, been active. Two hospice houses will open in October. Hopefully, I'll get exact details from Mama Chuckles so you can read it in black and white.

If I remember correctly from my little theatre days (yes, I've



ISE Emperor and Empress IX Tootsi and Carlos celebrate their victory

been on the boards), one cardinal rule is that if you're behind the scenes, never, never, never look out the wings to see what's going on onstage. Eight-year-old Tarr probably hasn't been taught that—yet. But Ms. H.H. should have known better! It is possible to "upstage" the performer from the wings. That act tended to take the dignity away from the one "in the spotlight."

From our state's capitol I received this press release: An estimated 150 Sacramento lesbians and gay men and their supporters are expected to join the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights Sunday, Oct. 11. The Sacramento group will join similar contingents from throughout the United States to form what may be the largest civil rights march in American history.

In addition to the march and rally, organizers have slated activities from Thursday, Oct. 8 to Tuesday, Oct. 13, including a mass "wedding" for lesbian and gay couples, ceremonies honoring AIDS victims and gay and lesbian veterans, a concert and a massive non-violent demonstration of civil disobedience at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Harvey Milk said rights will never be given to you, that you have to demand them. "That's what we're going to do!"

Speaking of Sacramento, I spoke with Lady Garnet and Leonard at the Coronation (we get to meet once a year at Coronations!) and they said they finally made it! They are the new Grand

Duke and Grand Duchess of Sacramento. Congratulations, it was a long time a-coming!

Recently there was an "altercation" at one of our local watering holes. Rumor had it that it was between Steve and an owner of Revol. Diligent detective work discovered that neither of the two Steves from Revol nor either of its owners were involved. It turned out to be Vicious Vera and her spouse, Steve! Expected but not accepted behavior.

This Saturday is Lady Lennie and Marlow's buffet fundraiser for EBAF at Cabel's Reef. From 6 p.m. on, experience music, prizes, buffet (\$3 a plate donation), raffles, and entertainment.

Big Mama's October schedule is chockablock: Sat. 3, Lady Bianca w/band 8 p.m.; Sat. 10, E.C. Scott & Smoke 8 p.m., Sun. 11, Dean Snow's Columbus Day Party 4 p.m.; Sat. 17, Ruth Hastings & Co. 8 p.m.; Sun. 25, Joseph Taro & Sandy Van w/Dan Fludd, 8 p.m.

Little Mother will present a show at Spoiled Brat, on Sunday, Nov. 15. It will feature the wonderful Pauleen and the "famous" Jim Brown at the piano. An added attraction will be "Terricita."

The first show will be at 5 p.m. and the second one at 7 p.m., with a buffet in between for a suggested donation of \$5 (proceeds going to EBAF).

Our great ambition was to have built something that would last—at least until we had finished building it. Dare I smile? Love, •

Nez and spouse.



ISE Emperor and Empress VIII Mama Chuckles and Davida few minutes before their final walk

## Ready for romance on the high seas? Bay Area Career Women presents **Harvest Moon Boat Cruise**

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YES! Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Member tickets at \$35 each, and \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member tickets at \$45 each for the Harvest Moon Boat Cruise on October 10. (Reservations must be received by October 7.)

My self-addressed, stamped envelope and check made out to B.A.C.W. is enclosed for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Or charge my VISA or MasterCard (\$1.00 service charge per ticket).

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Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (Area Code) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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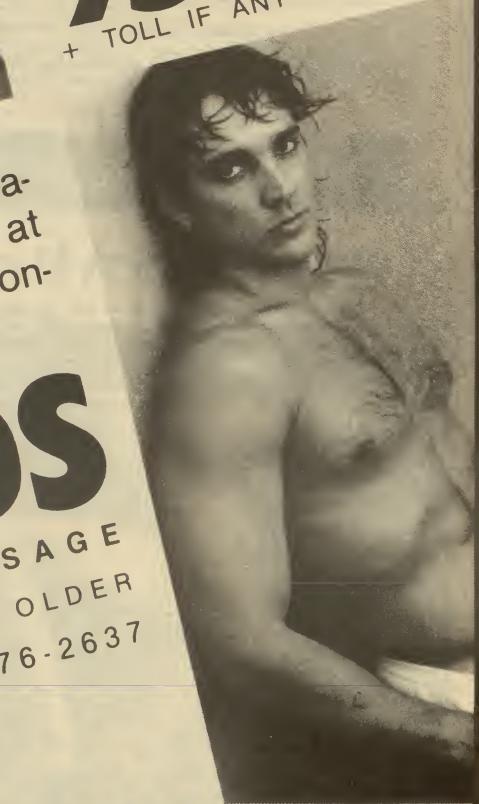
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# THIS W



Can't Keep a Straight Face (starring Tom Ammiano, Doug Holsclaw, Kelly Kittell, Suzy Berger, Laurie Bushman, and Jeanine Strobel) plays The Studio at Theatre Rhino this weekend

## FRIDAY 2

- **Bye-Bye Bay B:** the Baybrick Inn goes out with a bang, comedy cabaret with a favorite Baybrick comedian 8-10 PM, dance with Code Blue DJ Chris Wasmund 10 PM to midnight, dance with DJ Stephanie Phillips midnight to 4 AM, \$5 cover for all three, 1190 Folsom St., S.F.
- **The Blazing Redheads:** music, The Dock, 25 Main St., Tiburon, 9 PM, \$2. Call 435-4559 for more information.
- **Pam Sison:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4.
- **Ardy Tibby and Eternity Chapman:** storytelling and music, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, concert begins 8:30 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale.
- **Ginger St. John and Friends:** an evening of comedy, pantomime, and impersonation, Kimo's, 1351 Polk St., S.F., 10 PM and midnight, \$4. With Vila Bankhead, Hoopa Hooper, Rita Louise Carter Cline, and Billie Jean Baker.
- **A Late Snow:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$12. Jane Chambers' romantic comedy returns to Rhino for its 10th anniversary season. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Can't Keep a Straight Face:** comedy, The Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. With Tom Ammiano, Suzy Berger, Laurie Bushman, Doug Holsclaw, Kelly Kittell, and Jeanine Strobel. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Sing-A-Long:** with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.



Mikio Hirata and his friends do The Galleon Sunday  
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

- **Yom Kippur:** services of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Unitarian Center, Franklin and Geary sts., S.F., 7:30 PM, donations welcome. Led by Rabbi Yoel Kahn and the Ritual Committee.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** service, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 PM, \$2. Call 552-7339 for more information.
- **Parlez-vous français?** Si oui, venez à nos réunions amicales le premier vendredi soir de chaque mois à 8h. La bienvenue à tout niveau! La fête du 7 août sera chez John. Pour de plus amples renseignements,appelez-le au 558-97-00.

## SATURDAY 3



Marga Gomez wants you to come to the Bye-Bye Bay B events at the Baybrick this weekend (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

- **Bye-Bye Bay B:** grand finale, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8 PM-7 AM, \$5 cover. With DV8 funk DJ Donna Rego, DJ Carol Bever, Marga Gomez, DJ Stephanie Phillips, Oasis DJ Page Hodel, and DJ Lauren Hewitt.
- **Boy Dance Party:** Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 9 PM-2:30 AM, \$6. Videos, performances, and DJ music masters. The theme is "Back to School," and disco diva Sylvester is expected to appear.
- **Mary Gemini:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Synthesizer, piano, and vocal renditions.
- **A Late Snow:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Can't Keep a Straight Face:** comedy (see Friday listing for details).
- **Mark Levine:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Yom Kippur:** services of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Unitarian Center, Franklin and Geary sts., S.F., morning service 10 AM, children's service 1:30 PM, Yizkor and Ne'ilah services 5 PM, donations welcome. Led by Rabbi

# WEEK

Yoel Kahn and members of the Ritual Committee.

- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Redwood Park run. Take I-80 to 35th Ave. exit. Go East to Redwood Rd. Entrance to Redwood Park on left. Meet at last parking lot. Call 261-3246 for more information.

- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** decide and ride. Meet at 1 PM at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F. to decide on a ride.

- **Gay Gourmet Group:** potluck. Call 775-6143 or write to P.O. Box 14022, S.F., 94114, for more information.

- **Gay/Lesbian Sierra Club:** garage sale, N.W. corner of Castro and 14th sts., S.F., 10 AM-5 PM. Call 431-5414 or 236-2783 to donate items or to volunteer.

- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** service, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., doors open 7:30 PM-1 AM. Call 621-1887 for more information.

## SUNDAY 4

- **Castro Street Fair:** Castro Street between Market and 19th sts., 10 AM-4 PM. Be there!

- **Dreamland:** after the Castro Street Fair, Harrison and 3rd sts., S.F., 6 PM-2 AM, \$5. Dancing, video, and lasers.

- **Bike-A-Thon:** to benefit the Women's Training Center Legal Defense Fund, courses (25 and 50 miles) begin and end at the Women's Training Center, 2164 Market St., S.F., check-in between 8 and 10 AM, \$12 registration fee. Collect the most pledges and win a three-month gym membership at Women's Training Center (women) or the City Athletic Club (men). Call 864-6835 for more information.

- **Brasilian Beat:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, cover. Brasilian music with Chalo Eduardo.

- **A Late Snow:** stage performance, 3 and 8 PM, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Mikio and Friends:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5 PM, \$5. Mikio Hirata showcases the best new talent.

- **Tom Andersen:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.

- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- **Electric City:** television on Oakland cable channel 35, 10 PM. Watch out for Dead Marilyn!

- **G40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Lee Wood and David McKasson of Black and White Men Together will speak; plus Romeo's Rapturously Regarded Raffle.

- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** decide and ride. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 10 AM to decide on a ride.

- **Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group:** meeting, Old Firehouse, Stanford University campus, 7:30 PM. This week's topic is "Sex in Long-Term Relationships."

- **An Affair:** presented by the New Bell Saloon in recognition of and for the benefit of Mark Friese, 1203 Polk St., S.F., 2 PM. With David Kelsey, Bob Sandner, Davida, and an auction of plants, drinks, and other things with guest auctioneers Harry Gardner (Long Beach), Lakish (Sacramento), Grand Duchess Flame, and former Empress Reba Mae. Call 775-6905 for more information.

- **Tsunami Masters Swim Team:** practice, King Pool, Third and Carroll sts., S.F., 10 AM to noon. Call 285-5659 for more information.

- **Gay/Lesbian Sierra Club:** garage sale (see Saturday listing for details).



David Kelsey will play at the "affair" for Mark Friese at the New Bell Sunday  
(Photo: Rink)

## MONDAY 5

- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men (60+), 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

- **Square Dancing for Gay Men, Lesbians, and Friends:** Western Star Dancers' beginners class, 2nd-floor theater, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave., S.F., 8:15 PM, free. No partner necessary. Call 621-0862 or 621-6408 for more information.

## TUESDAY 6

- **Business and AIDS:** seminar, UCSF Laurel Heights Conference Center, 333 California St., S.F., 6:30-10 PM, \$5. Sponsored by the S.F. Chamber of Commerce, the Golden Gate Business Association, the Council of District Merchants, the U.S. Small Business Administrations and the Mayor's Small Business Advisory Commission. Call 392-4520 for more information.

- **Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- **Pre-Relationship Support Group:** meeting. Sponsored by the Partners Institute. Call 343-8541 for more information.



Sylvester may appear at the Boy Party Saturday at Sutter's Mill

## WEDNESDAY 7

- **Tim Miller:** multi-media performance, Footwork Studio, 3221 22 St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. "Some Golden States" will receive its world premiere as part of The Edge Festival.

- **A Late Snow:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- **Open Mike Cabaret:** with Katibelle Collins and Lauren Mayer, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.

- **Gay/Lesbian Sierrans:** "getting to know us" party, Sierra Club, Polk and Ellis St., 7 PM-10 PM. Slide show at 8 PM, snacks, coffee, and tea, BYO wine or beer. Call 236-2783 or 431-5414 for more information.

- **Ballroom Dance:** beginning instruction for lesbians and gay men, 3435 Army St., Studio 204, S.F., 8-9 PM, \$1. Call 587-0844 for more information.

- **Wednesday Matinee:** sponsored by Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, 333 Turk St., S.F., 2:15-4 PM. Movies, games, and refreshments. Call 626-7000 for more information.

- **Women's Writer's Workshop:** for older lesbians (60+) and their friends, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-8 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.

## THURSDAY 8

- **Mark Zerga:** music, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 8:30 PM, free. A showcase of Bay Area songwriters. Call 885-44390 for more information.

- **Tim Miller:** multi-media performance (see Wednesday listing for details).

- **A Late Snow:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- **Open Mike Comedy:** with Darlene Popovic and friends, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-9 PM.

- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** older gay men's friendship group (60+), Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 6:30 PM. No-host dinner follows, beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

# JAPANTOWN BOWL



Would you like to  
BE REWARDED  
FOR OUTSTANDING  
ACHIEVEMENT?

Would you like to  
MAKE NEW  
FRIENDS?

Do you LIKE  
TO SOCIALIZE?

Would you ENJOY  
AN INEXPENSIVE  
NIGHT OUT?

If you answered yes to any of the above  
questions now is the time for you to try Gay  
League Bowling. Here is a sample of the best  
Gay Bowling Leagues in the Bay Area.

**MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - The most established and oldest ongoing Gay Bowling League in San Francisco. This league has been bowling for over 25 years. League will start on October 12, bowls every Monday evening at 8:45 p.m., costs \$9.00 per week, is 80% handicap and has 5 bowlers to a team.

**TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - This league was the largest Summer League at Japantown Bowl and there is hope to be larger this winter. League will start on September 29th, bowls every Tuesday evening at 8:45, costs \$9.00 per week, is 90% handicap and has 5 bowlers to a team.

**WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - Last Winter this league was a whopping 28 teams of bowlers, with 2 divisions; who knows what this year will bring? League will start on October 14, bowls every Wednesday evening at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.50 per week, is 80% handicap and has 5 bowlers to a team.

**THURSDAY AFTERNOON COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - Great league for Bartenders and other night workers. This is the only weekday afternoon Gay League in the City. League will start on October 15th, bowls every Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m., costs \$6.50 per week, is 90% handicap and has 3 bowlers to a team.

**HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE** - Believe it or not EVERY BOWLER IN THIS LEAGUE GOES TO HAWAII AT THE END OF THE SEASON. The Hawaii trip is included in your league fees. What a great way to have a vacation paid for in June of 1988. Hawaii trip is for 8 days and 7 nights. League will start on September 4th, bowls every Friday evening at 6:30 p.m., costs \$19.00 per week, is 90% handicap and has 4 bowlers to a team.

**SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE** - Everyone in this league will go to Reno at the end of the season. The Reno trips are always loads of fun. League starts on October 25th, bowls at 6:00 p.m., costs \$11.00 per week, is 90% handicap and has 4 bowlers to a team.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Trail Blazer

### Sonia Johnson Has Taken On Ronald Reagan and the Mormons

by Joy Schulenburg

**I**ve learned that everybody's journey is different," says feminist author Sonia Johnson. "I can't pass judgment on how other women live their lives because our experience is so different. We're not on the same road. Sometimes we can't even see each other."

Sonia Johnson is not one to fear blazing her own trail. For nearly a decade she has been hacking her way through the jungle of misogyny and oppression with determination and skillful words. Like a true pioneer, she does not look back to see if anyone is following her. When she ran for the Presidency of the United States in 1984, her objective was not winning the White House. Rather it was to provide an option, an alternative to the male-dominated political system.

Above all, Johnson does not believe in working inside the system.

"Women are not genuine inside the [traditional] system," she asserts firmly. "It's alien to us, spiritually and psychically. That's where we have our power — outside the system. That's where we're authentic!"

In her latest book *Going Out of Our Minds: The Metaphysics of Liberation*, Johnson has chronicled her journeys through, around and outside contemporary power structures. As an impassioned and well-crafted tour, the book is fascinating. Whether the reader agrees or disagrees



Author Sonia Johnson

(Photo: C.E. Wheler)

with Sonia Johnson's conjectures and philosophies, it is clear from the onset that she speaks and thinks from hard personal experience.

#### WORKING WITHIN STRUCTURES

From her ejection from that most patriarchal of systems, the Mormon Church and her subsequent divorce, through the early days of civil disobedience, John-

son explored the ways women work within existing structures. Her journey took her into clashes with the higher-ups in the National Organization for Women (NOW), through a presidential campaign, to her coming out as a lesbian. This latter taught her even more about the oppression she was already experiencing as a woman.

"Lesbian women ... We learn what we live and we live oppres-

sion. The deeper we live it, the more oppressed we are."

As she learned more about herself, more about the society around her, she began to evolve a system of belief that was more than just social or political. She now contends that the changes she advocates are inner, spiritual changes; that the only way to reform society is to reform the conditioning in the self.

"For us, the biggest problem

in the world is our own internalized oppression. Not being able to love ourselves. We have been conditioned not to. In order to create change, we have to do on-the-job research in our own souls and begin to undo that conditioning on the spot."

**I**n this vein, Johnson continues to take on the feminist women's community as well as the politicians. Her book tour is not based on either lectures or readings, but upon dialogues. She puts out her ideas, her viewpoints and then sits back and listens to her audience. Many of them are excited by the spiritual, radical ideas she expounds. Others are less than enthusiastic, particularly when she points out the lack of success in creating viable alternatives that women have experienced thus far. She explains this in light of conditioning and oppression also. She is concerned that so many well-intentioned ideas have fallen apart because of disagreement and targets the notion the unanimity or consensus is necessary for women to work together.

"The reason women can't disagree is because we don't agree on how wonderful it is to be female. We don't trust it, we don't love it. Then we can't disagree about anything or the house will fall down. So we ostracize those who disagree or else we fall apart. We are incredibly intolerant of each other because we can't tolerate ourselves. We can't forgive." (Continued on page 36)

## 'She's Outrageous! Meet Sue Fink!'

by David Alex Nahmod

Having seen Sue Fink perform upstairs at Amelia's last year, I can tell you that she's one of the most entertaining acts in women's music. Sue is at once a woman with a message, fine singer-songwriter, superb guitarist, and outrageous comedian. Her songs range from rock to folksy ballads, from thought-provoking songs to outrageously comic punk numbers worthy of "Saturday Night Live."

"I'm torn in different directions," she says. "Music is my first love, but I also love comedy. I have done stand-up comedy, and I like to add funniness between songs during concerts."

When she's in concert, her energy level is astounding. She runs back and forth on stage, playing guitar, singing, breathlessly throwing one-liners at the audience, getting her audience to participate in the show, and generally having a good time. Her joyful onstage persona is quite contagious!

At Amelia's last year, she played to an audience of 100 very appreciative women and exactly three men. But she hopes any Bay Area appearances will have a

more general appeal. "I think gay men would really like my music. I think they should take a risk. Step into another world..."

Those who do step into Sue Fink's world will get to hear songs like the hilarious *Boys Are Thugs*, from her first LP, *Big Promise*, which recently won an award from the National Association of Independent Record Distributors. Although it received very little airplay, Sue managed to sell nearly 6,000 copies of the album.

"Since I'm classified as women's music, it's hard to get airplay. I mainly play on college and alternative radio stations," she said. "Very often, people who might like my music never get a chance to hear me." Between record sales and club dates, Sue makes a very tight living, and supplements her income by giving voice lessons on a part-time basis. National recognition, while still in coming, does loom on her horizon. She MC'd the National Women's Music Festival in Bloomington, IN, and performed at the International Women's Music Festival in Beersheba, Israel.



Sue Fink

On Nov. 1, she begins recording her second, as yet untitled album. She says it will be more thoughtful, with more intimate songs that will show more of her voice. Included on the album will be the lovely *Letters to Marie*, a story song about a woman in

prison and her relationship with a pen pal. The song has long been a part of her stage show. She also hopes to put together a video, and is looking for investors.

Fink's *Big Promise* LP may be purchased at most Bay Area

women's bookstores.



For information on her future concert plans, or her fan club, you can write her at 2801 B Ocean Park Blvd., Suite #66, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

## Polly-morphous Perversity and Canadian Magic

by Steve Warren

The old secretary-in-love-with-her-boss plot gets a lesbian twist in *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*, which is not a musical version of *Splash*.

Polly Vandersma (Sheila McCarthy), an awkward young woman with wide green eyes and red-orange hair in a pixie-punk do, looks directly at you through a videocam in the film's opening moments, and starts telling you all about herself, trying a bit too hard to be ingratiating. If you're not hooked within two minutes, you just wasted six bucks.

I was hooked. McCarthy's spunky charm reminded me at times of Rita Tushingham, at other times of Lucille Ball in her more subdued moments. She makes Polly seem so naive it could be her first day on earth. McCarthy couldn't ask for a better showcase for her talents, and writer/director/co-producer/editor Patricia Rozema couldn't have asked for a brighter star to bring her low-budget (\$262,000) debut feature to life.

So who is Polly? "I'm a girl Friday. Well, actually I became a person Friday a couple of years ago. It didn't change the job much." She's 31 years old and lives alone. "I've had a couple of boyfriends, but I could never really talk to them . . . I guess that makes me a spinster."

She works as a temporary secretary in Toronto, but isn't very good at it. "One guy said I was organizationally impaired." Her hobby is photography, just going around taking pictures of things she likes. She's really a voyeur at heart. In the darkroom she lapses into fantasies. She's Spiderwoman climbing a building and Superwoman flying over the city. She rides a trolley to the sea, where she watches the waves and listens to — presumably — the song of mermaids.

Polly finally falls into a temporary job she likes, at an art gallery owned by Gabrielle (Paule Baillargeon), a woman who's everything Polly isn't — sophisticated, successful, ambitious and loved. Polly develops a crush on this woman she calls "the Curator," impressed by her French accent (hardly exotic in Toronto) and her way of saying such pretentious things as "half-lives, half-lived."

After being promoted to "permanent part-time secretary" during a hilarious meal at a Japanese restaurant where she orders blindly and has to deal with the result, Polly eavesdrops as Gabrielle's former lover comes back into her life.

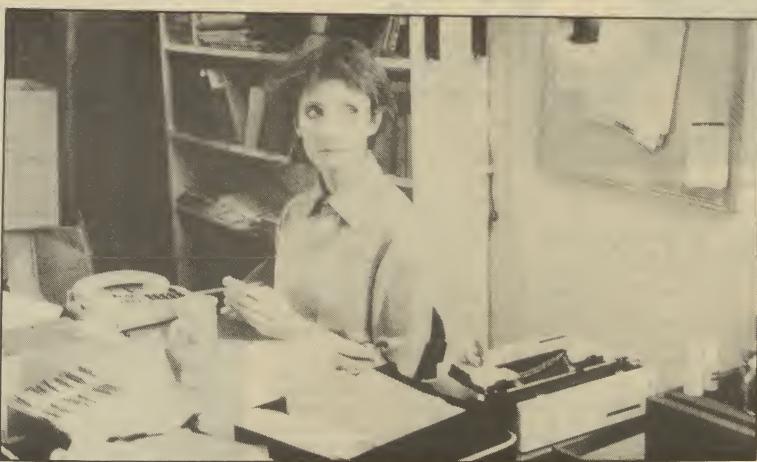
"I'm too old for you," Gabrielle protests.

"I'm wise beyond my years," counters Mary (Ann-Marie McDonald).

"And I'm foolish beyond mine."

It's the openness of the black-leather jacketed Mary that frightens Gabrielle — "In my line of work I run into a lot of Baptist ministers who give me a hard time" — but she can't resist the younger woman's considerable appeal for long.

Jealousy makes Polly realize, "I think I kind of fell in love with the Curator. I know love is a pretty strong word when you're talking about another woman and she's not your mother. I don't think I wanted kissing and stuff."



Sheila McCarthy in *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*

I just loved her."

Fantasizing that she's intelligent, Polly prattles about "polymorphous perversity" and concludes, "Gender is irrelevant in

matters of the heart."

When the dream ends, Polly's her old dumb self, and questions Mary about Gabrielle. "I love her. A lot," Mary says.

"Like a mother? Or a sister?"

"No. Like a lover."

A drunken Gabrielle confides her urge to create an enduring

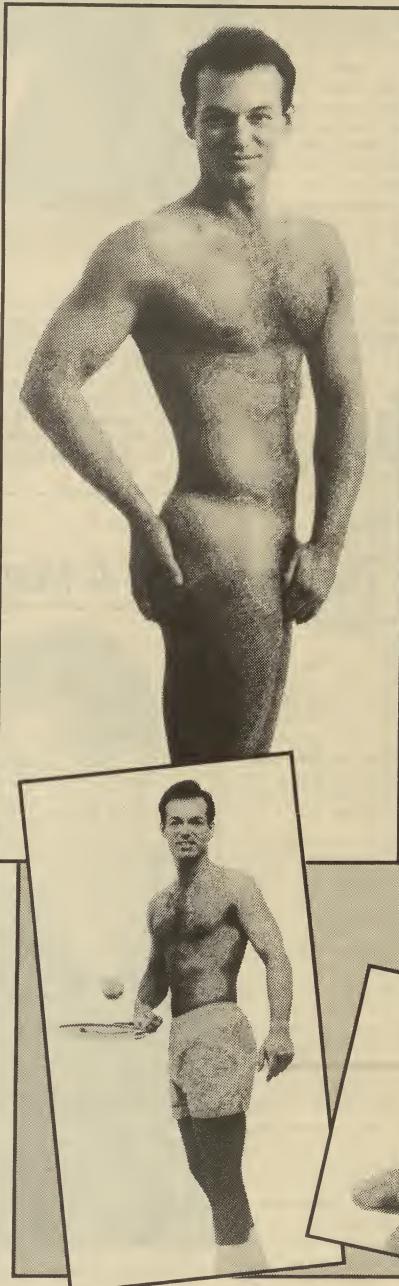
work of art. When Polly asks to see what she's done, Gabrielle reveals paintings with more than a touch of magic, not from her work but the way Rozema chooses to represent them. It's the moment my liking for the film turned to loving.

Gabrielle's ambition rubs off on Polly, who submits some of her photographs under a "pseudo-name." I'll leave the surprises and shifting fortunes which follow for you to discover as the magic continues to the final frame.

One line that seems to have been inserted with a wink to gay audiences is Mary's. "We're partners in a victimless crime." It turns out she's not talking about what you think she's talking about.

The only technical flaw which betrays the budget is the dialogue recording. Quite a few lines are muffled or spoken off-mike.

*I've Heard the Mermaids Singing* is short at 81 minutes, but it's complete and won't leave you feeling cheated. Its director and star are young talents to be reckoned with, and you'll want to follow their careers from this dazzling beginning. (Four Star) •



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## STAGE

# Mysterious Madness

**'Irma Vep': Outrageous, Silly, Weird, Wonderful**

by Joseph Bean

The *Mystery of Irma Vep* is a grand case for gay sensibility without gay subject matter. If the old movie parodies and movie-star vignettes don't get you, the incredible changes of costume and character will.

Jamie Baron and Tom Aulino, who are the cast, hop around from monster to man, man to woman, and woman to whatever with the greatest of ease. Both guys are outrageous, silly, weird, and wonderful. They fly through at least a dozen characters at break-neck speed. And, with a sly wink, they let the audience in on all the fun they have doing it.

The play is really not just the meaningless romp it seems at first. Part of what made Charles Ludlam tick as playwright, actor, and parodist was always the question of identity. So *Irma Vep* is a play about the bottomless pit of identity and the endless layers of masks we all wear.

But most of all, it's about how ridiculous we are.

On the side of its meaning—which in true Ludlam style must be juggled rather than delivered—the current production probably does a lot less than it could, very likely missing a lot of the comic peaks in the process. Still, you'll laugh a lot. I did.

The great danger inherent in a Ludlam script, or any piece created for the playwright's own, eccentrically unique playing style, is that we might sit there comparing the actors to the creator of the work. Failing that, we may find ourselves mentally casting our favorite drag stars in the roles, and expect the show to measure up to our "best of camp" memories.

In short, neither Baron nor Aulino is Charles Ludlam. Nor are they Charles Pierce, Michael



Tom Aulino as Jane and Jamie Baron as Nicodemus in Charles Ludlam's *The Mystery of Irma Vep*  
(Photo: Savage Photography)

Greer, or Perry (does anyone remember Perry?). They have their own way of going at the material, and it works... up to a point. Their *Irma Vep* is not as confidently hip as Ludlam's must have been, not as campy or broad as Pierce's would be, not as wry as Greer, nor as bitchy as Perry, but it's fun.

Fun's the thing. *Irma Vep*, done anyway at all, is not for everyone. It's only for fun-loving people who are ready to go past the suspension of disbelief all the way to submersion in the fantastic—or, frankly, the ridiculous.

The plot is nearly irrelevant, so you don't need to know that be-  
(Continued on page 36)

## "EXHILARATING!"



Sheila McCarthy is the most enchantingly irresistible offbeat beauty to come along in years!  
—Judith Crist, WWOR-TV

## "FUNNY AND IRRESISTIBLE!"

Sheila McCarthy has traces of Charlie Chaplin and Woody Allen.  
—Stewart Klein, WNYW-TV



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—Daphne Davis, EW

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—Jami Bernard,  
N.Y. POST

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—Kathleen Carroll, N.Y. DAILY NEWS

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—Joseph Gelmis,  
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## 'Biloxi Blues'

### Gay Theme Shows A Mature Simon

by Robert Frank

In 1985, after 24 years of writing such successful comedies as *Barefoot in the Park* and *The Odd Couple*, Neil Simon finally won a Tony Award for Best Play, *Biloxi Blues*. It is now being presented at Theatre on the Square in San Francisco, through Nov. 1.

*Biloxi* is the second play of a semi-autobiography trilogy about young Simon's coming of age in the 1930s and '40s in New York City and in the U.S. Army of World War II. The play could also be considered "The Maturation of Neil Simon," both literally and figuratively. The author takes on more mature themes in a more serious way, including some self-criticism, while still being extremely funny. The more mature Neil Simon will not compromise character for a laugh.

Simon's alter ego in the play is Eugene Jerome. Fresh from secure, Jewish family life in Brooklyn (treated in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*), Eugene now encounters the indignities of the Army and racial, religious and sexual bigotry and reacts (or fails



Peter Birkenhead (l.) and Kevin Hardesty in *Biloxi Blues*

## MUSIC

# Gay and Lesbian Composers: A Healthy Tradition

by Philip Campbell

The Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers staged another of its successful matinee showcases last Sunday at Noe Valley Ministry, proving once and for all the value of such an institution.

Ever since it was founded in 1981 by Rodger Pettyjohn and Paul Attinello, The Society has steadily advanced a healthy new tradition despite the heavy odds facing serious musicians—composers most especially.

Pettyjohn's diagnosis of ARC last January could have spelled doom, but networking with other arts coalitions, like Artists For Community Life, has kept the group going long enough to witness the return from New York (where he now resides) of a vigorous and positive Rodger Pettyjohn and the premiere of his strongest work to date.

Sunday's concert naturally centered around the adventurous computer/video music of the visiting hero, but that did not eclipse the important contributions of other members of the Society.

R.H. Wagner's "Variations on a Random Theme" gave early demonstration to what soon became the afternoon's recurring revelation—modern composers can still come up with good tunes! A wistfully nostalgic waltz anchored Wagner's piece, giving needed focus to the many rambling turns. Pianist Stephen Damonte was seemingly accurate, but slightly labored.

Winner of piano competitions, Seth Montfort played his own "Dance for Gene Kelly" to fill program space left by ailing soprano Kris Ingle. It proved much better than mere substitution. One could actually imagine an impish, muscular Kelly fleshing out the witty steps. Rhythmic echoes of Gershwin haunted the playful moments and the big, bluesy central theme, but Montfort has digested enough modernism with his musicals to put an individual stamp on what he announced was his first-ever composition.

The following scheduled piece, "Soliloquy Sonata," fulfilled the promise of the earlier work. Obvious influences are again in evidence, but Montfort delights in unexpected twists and his broadly lyrical melodies are irresistible. The ambitious score succeeds on its own terms, aided immeasurably by the author's brilliantly assured pianism.

Charles Baker's "Three Songs on Poems of Marc Randall" returns the composer to territory he is well travelled in. As in the best parts of his epic oratorio "Gilgamesh," Baker is most successful with a simple pop style. His tunes are catchy enough to match the easy and immediate appeal of Randall's words. John Tallerino's pleasantly clear tenor was well suited to the first and last songs, less so for the "artier" central number, "Wise Men Say." A brief snatch of the theme from "Gilgamesh" served as encore and gentle reminder that a reworked version of the full score is scheduled for future production.

I won't bother describing the gadgetry or concept involved in Rodger Pettyjohn's "RND4." Suffice it to say that man and



Seth Montfort at the keyboard

(Photo: J. Dusch)

machine are in cahoots to create a basically spontaneous sound experience, visually aided by computer graphics. The advances in technique and sophistication were immediately apparent. The controlled noise, pulsing mightily from quadraphonic sources, is filled with enough interest to justify the score's ten-minute duration. One can easily forego the colorful but essentially superfluous visuals and simply wallow in the sensuous bath of electronic sound. It is gratifying to see Pettyjohn fully embracing the possibilities of electronics and avoiding the trap of merely synthesizing conventional acoustic instruments.

The encore piece, an unexpected peek at a work-in-progress based on satirical aphorisms from a cult-like group in modern Germany, was a revelation. Here the graphics become a truly integral part of the eerie electronic voicings, and the effect is tantalizing. I would have to see more to formulate a solid opinion, but this certainly appears to be the composer's most ambitious endeavor.

Mark Koval performed his own "Chant d'Allegresse," but in this instance, the composer was not equal to a convincing presentation of the score. There is an ingratiating Keith Jarrett-like improvisatory quality to the piece, but it is too slight to be stretched so thin and it shortly outstayed its welcome. An encounter with Koval's "Romantic Sonata for Violin and Piano" is remembered for being almost too rich in material. The author might consider shortening both pieces with music to spare.

at ease. Sacriste informs us that he has yet another "Duo" in the wings, this time for saxophone and cello. The Society might well consider an evening devoted to these intriguing pieces, provided adequate rehearsal is allowed. •



— Judy Stone, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

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## The Ring Revisited

In 1986, when the Seattle Opera, (under the leadership of Speight Jenkins), unveiled a new *Ring* cycle designed by Robert Israel and directed by Francois Rochaix, it became painfully evident that certain parts of their creative concept would have to be reworked. The giant crab-legs used in Act II of *Siegfried* to suggest a dragon twice the size of the Opera House had nearly been laughed off the stage. The affectations of traditional Japanese Noh drama which were used, quite literally, to wrap up Brunnehilde's immolation scene had proven to be a major disappointment.

Although the Seattle Symphony, under Manuel Rosenthal's baton, had given a superb reading of the score—and the cast had done a spectacular job of singing Wagner's music—the 1986 *Ring*, as exciting as it may have been, did not fully gel. Despite Jenkins' pledge to spend at least \$100,000 revamping the production and the glad tidings that soprano Leonie Rysanek would perform the role of Sieglinde in 1987, an announcement earlier this year that there would be no *Ring* in Seattle in 1988 sent tremors of alarm coursing through the operatic grapevine.

Was the Rochaix/Israel concept doomed to a mercilessly short life? Had the Seattle Opera's administration bitten off more than it could chew? Was the highly successful Pacific Northwest Wagner Festival—first begun in the mid-1970s by Glynn Ross—about to be buried under the triple threat of the Metropolitan Opera's new but noticeably conservative *Ring*, Artpark's daring multi-media *Ring* (scheduled for summer 1989 in upstate New York) and San Francisco's revival of its phenomenally successful *Ring* in 1990?



Under the watchful eyes of her sister Valkyries, Brunnehilde (Linda Kelm) gives Sieglinde (Leonie Rysanek) the pieces of Siegmund's sword in Act III of Wagner's *Die Walkure*

Such fears, legitimate as they may have seemed, were proven groundless this past summer when Jenkins (a) produced a *Ring* of such incredible musical strength, vocal beauty and dramatic clarity that it made hardened Wagnerians weep with a newfound sense of orgasmic ecstasy; (b) discovered the Seattle audience rallying around his revised *Ring* in a way that would guarantee the funding necessary for its future health and welfare, and (c) explained the complicated financial reasons which had forced

him to cancel the 1988 *Ring* in order to meet the requirements of a major multi-disciplinary foundation grant which demanded to see a balanced budget before it would fund continued growth for several of Seattle's most vital nonprofit arts organizations.

Recently, I've been quite taken aback by the glut of mediocrities to be found on the operatic stage. However, I should confess that, when one attends as many as 150 performances a year, the statistical odds dictate that, if one is lucky, perhaps ten percent of

those performances will truly be superb.

It gives me great pleasure to report that the Seattle Opera's 1987 *Ring* was not only an immense artistic triumph lodged solidly in that top ten percent, but an entrepreneurial tour de force which could easily hold its own in the international festival marketplace.

Based on my experiences this summer in both Seattle and Scandinavia, I'd advise any impassioned opera queen—even the most hardened skeptic in the

crowd—to plan on attending the 1989 Seattle *Ring*. At the very least, you'll get your money's worth. However, my guess is that you'll also get a magnificently musical mindfuck.

### BURN, BABY, BURN!

Due to the precarious economics of the opera profession, very few directors and impresarios receive the chance or, for that matter, create the opportunity to improve their staging of a given production. Seattle Opera deserves to be congratulated for not only taking the time to do so, but doing a spectacular job in the process. A newly-lit rainbow bridge at the end of *Das Rheingold* shone with as much magic as the music coming from the pit; the carousel horses used during the "Ride of the Valkyries" seemed better than ever before.

Although a different dragon marched to the same drummer in Act II of *Siegfried*, this time around the theatrical effect was solidly in tune with the dramatic moment at hand. For pyromaniacs, the 1987 *Ring* offered the ultimate operatic flame-throwing experience. Not only did the "Magic Fire Music" work to stunning effect, during the immolation scene nearly half the stage was in flames (the heat in the audience quickly became a sinister presence).

Speight Jenkins still can't help chuckling when he describes what happened during the dress rehearsal of *Gotterdamerung*. One of Seattle's fire marshals, confident in the safety of Tassilo Baur's pyrotechnical designs, stood quietly through the immolation scene before turning to the Seattle Opera's rather nervous general director and muttering, "Wow! That's really beautiful music."

(Continued on page 38)

## Keith White

A succession of dolls shared my deepest childhood secrets for more years than I normally admit. Benign creatures; perfect imaginary friends. My recollection is a result of my just having seen French choreographer Maguy Marin's controversial *Cinderella* at Zellerbach Auditorium, Sept. 25. Every character wears a mask with a porcelain baby-doll face. What Marin set out to do is clear. She'd make a dance theater ballet of *Cinderella* in the guise of a children's dollhouse drama; every character would be portrayed by a doll, and the story would be enacted using the manners of children as well. The concept is interesting and Marin went to great lengths to realize it, so it is surprising that the finished ballet is not more engaging than it is.

During the opening strains of Prokofiev's ballet score, the curtain opens onto a giant three-tiered dollhouse, with lifesize toys in each chamber. There's an eeriness in Prokofiev's music that perfectly cues the gradual appearance of several giant doll heads, occupying the upper story like ghastly cherubim. Eventually the whole house is illuminated, finally revealing the doll-masked Cinderella asleep in her chair.

The story is familiar, and for a while the ballet holds the audience's attention with the novelty of its concept and its ingenious set and costumes, some of which are electrified with flashing lights. Visually the production is a triumph. It seems more determinedly experimental during

## Dolls Playing With Dolls



The stepmother and stepsisters jump rope at the ball in Maguy Marin's *Cinderella*, performed by Lyon Opera Ballet.

sections when the Prokofiev orchestra score is replaced by sound collages of babies gurgling. Insights about childhood and children tumble forth, including the perception with which children model the adult world around them, and their occasional unabashed cruelty.

The interest of Marin's concept wears thin too soon, unfortunately. Marin made movement for the dancers that resembles the movement of mechanical dolls, or the movement children give dolls when they provide the locomotion: broad, clumsy, confrontive gestures. This is charm-

ing and funny at first, and horrifying too, as the Cinderella character takes more and more violent pratfalls, the victim of her broom, the furniture, her stepsisters and stepmother, and ultimately her own lack of coordination.

If Marin had blessed her dolls with a moment of human (or superhuman) grace, her ballet might have transcended the limits of its concept and effected a magical transformation. Instead, the choreographer continued her method of broken, halting gestures through the entire hundred or so minutes of the

ballet. Cinderella dances on pointe, but never beautifully. She's a doll, see? Even the Fairy Godmother's four dolls-in-waiting, who arrive to dress Cinderella and teach her to dance, perform an uninspired pointe variation, technically demanding enough to let us know they are actually classically trained dancers but never allowing the dancers to shine.

Most of it could probably be performed by nondancers, which does not necessarily discredit it. But Marin's choreography too often struck me as a waste of good music.

The tightness of Marin's focus played her false even on her own terms. Many scenes were protracted to the point of tedium, like the portion of the ballroom scene in which the guests quarrel endlessly over candy that has been served, hammering at the idea of juvenile selfishness without advancing the action or providing a divertissement. Toward the end of the ballet there are Spanish and Oriental divertissements, as the prince doll searches the world for the owner of the glass slipper, but these come too late to boost the flagging spirits of an enervated audience.

The Lyon Opera Ballet, which made its Bay Area debut in this production, has no resident choreographer, but imports and commissions ballets with a preference for modern ballet and experimental works. Kurt Jooss' *The Green Table* and Antony Tudor's *Jardin Aux Lilas* are the oldest pieces in its repertoire, which includes works by William Forsythe, Jennifer Muller, and Louis Falco. Maguy Marin's *Cinderella* was an original commission.

One of the evening's most magical moments occurs during the bows, when the masks come off and we see the real young dancers who've been wearing them. Their faces look so interesting in comparison with the masks that an ovation is guaranteed. (And I think they took seven company bows—a lot for Berkeley.) But it seemed to me a shame to spend an entire evening with a new company and learn so little about its internal style. ●

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### Mr. Marcus

## For The Days Dwindle Down . . .

You say you didn't get enough with the Dore Alley Fair, Ms. Haight Ashbury Contest (Congrats Balloon Girl!), Leather Daddy, Leather Daddy's Boy, Physique '87, Lily Street Party, the pope's visit, Duke/Duchess Ball, 22 On The Red, Spring Equinox, Oktoberfest, Gay Rodeo, Gay World Series, Haight St. Fair, Upper Grant Ave. Fair, the J/O Buddies events and Theatre Rhino?

For shame! Well, one of the biggest Fall events takes place this Sunday, Oct. 4. See thousands of dudes and dudettes jam-packed into two blocks on the Castro. See drags and weirdos and much eye-balling as well as booths with food, games, political b.s. and community organizations. Drink, and be Mary Tie-Her More. See the Rainbow M/C initiate new members. See Richard Law and Robert Pruzan-nadanna immortalize baskets without shirts! See Jim Baroni's staff at the Castro Station perform to their fullest. See leather and non-leather people and have a ball.

Halloween is only 28 days away so drop in on Ms. Marcel at 4084-18th Street (upstairs from the Village Bar) and she'll create the wig of death for you to wear with that gown of death (in this case, death means just absolutely gorgeous!). Ms. Marcel has been doing wigs longer than any queen in town and she knows her stuff!

Yes, boys and girls, it's the official Fall Season in Full Swing! Absolutely no one has announced their Halloween parties (unusual for Sanford Kellman, Dick Collier, Fred Badalmente and their cohorts). But not to worry. Before long you'll be deluged with all the entrepreneurs trying to get your dollar on Halloween. Stay tuned.



The weather has been on and off so-so! Last weekend it was gorgeous and the CMC's annual Oktoberfest at the SF-Eagle Sun-



Haven Sanborn donated this bust in memory of Gregory Loring for a raffle to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Tickets (\$1) are at the Eagle leather store and Mr. S. Leathers. The drawing will be held Dec. 20 at the Eagle (Photo: S. Martin)

day was very well attended. Two dudes visiting here from Berlin were aghast! They came here for American cult-shure and couldn't believe all the lederhosen on the premises.

Across town that evening at Ivy's, a great group of "real" friends showed up at the bon voyage dinner for Kym Whittington. Everybody's favorite Saucy Aussie got a job offer with the Australian government that was just too good to turn down so right about now he's winging to the land down under where he'll assume his new position.

In his parting words, Kym wanted you all to know that his experiences here in San Francisco's gay community have prepared him well for the years ahead. There's a possibility he'll return to be in the Fourth Edition of Men Behind Bars (Feb '88). Kym put his best foot forward and certainly did his share for the community welfare. We're all going to miss him!

\* \* \*

It Happens Every Fall Dept.: I don't know why September is the month for all these letters to



Sable and Lily emceed the Eagle beer bust last weekend

(Photo: S. Martin)



Toasts were raised to Kym Whittington, one of South of Market's favorite leathermen, at his Bon Voyage party  
(Photo: Marcus)

come my way, but out of the last two dozen, 18 of them asked me to put out the word on dudes who wear cologne in the South of Market bars. Buster-Butch seemed to be the most strident in his strong suggestion that man-sweat is where it's at! (I agree!). Buster-Butch says to sound a "perfume alert!" For him, it's honest man smell!

Just in case, you're gorgeous and never make out, it's the cologne honey! Think about it. At one time, a real leather man from day one was going to open a leather bar here banning perfume, white sneakers (especially with a leather jacket or chaps!), polished nails, underarm deodorant, and a whole list of no-no's. But alas, so many groups would be picketing the place, he just said, "Fuck it! Wallow in perfume slop!" Yeah.

Male Entertainment Network (M.E.N. and W.O.M.E.N.) have completed the video of Physique '87. There are two cassettes available: one of just the men and one of just the women. Both are approximately one hour long and include all the highlights and winners and are available now from M.E.N., \$39.95 + \$2.60 tax. You can charge to your Mastercard by calling (415) 621-0100.



Chowing down at the Eagle beer bust  
(Photo: S. Martin)

Needless to say, the magnificent artistry of M.E.N.'s magic lenses have captured all the action with stunning visual effects you'll want to watch over and over. Don't be left out! While I've got your attention, the Gay Rodeo Highlights will be ready in mid-October for \$39.95 as well. Order your copy in advance and be the first in your corral to have it!



You've rarely seen a retraction in this column, but here's one! Since Martin Burke, Mr. Leather of NY, has been stripped of his title and the title bestowed on the 1st runner-up, I've consistently reported his name as Lindsay Wagner. This because down in L.A., Suzy Parker of Compass Magazine gave that name (Bionic Woman) to Lindsay Grant (his real name). Being the suave and sophisticated hot leather man that he is (and a gentleman too!), Mr. Grant called and gave me his real name with an explanation.

So, you're hereby advised that the current Mr. Leather of New York is Lindsay Grant, *not* Lindsay Wagner. And by the way, since the original winner, Martin Burke, is threatening to sue the producers of the event and Mr. Grant if he accepts the title, Mr. Grant says he *will* accept the ti-

tle and he will appear in New York on Saturday, Nov. 14 when the Mr. Leather of NY contest takes place. If you're in the vicinity, you might want to check out the fireworks.

Hi, Artie Haber! See you in November? I wouldn't miss this one for all the lipstick in Ms. Peckerhead's apartment!

And speaking of lipstick, the annual "drag only for butch bodies and men" party usually hosted by the Muscle Sisters, er, System will take place again this year. The theme for 1987 is Castro Cotillion and you can only wear pastel, repeat, pastel dresses! Absolutely no white gowns. Are you reading this Prince de Topaz? The Cotillion will take place the Saturday night

*(Continued on next page)*

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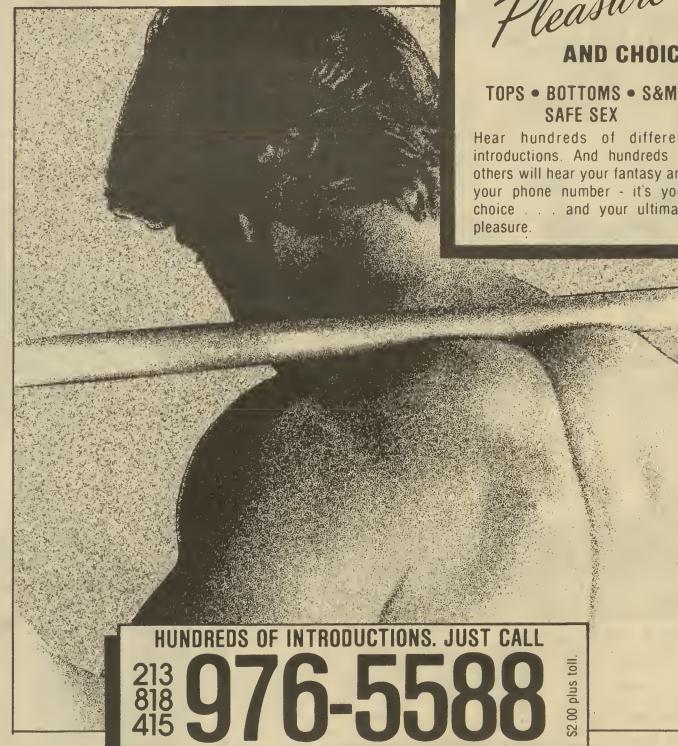
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## Marcus

(Continued from previous page)  
before Halloween (let's see, that's Oct. 24); check out the time and price from your favorite bodybuilder.



The Fall TV Season is underway and there seems to be a lot of gay characters in some of the new shows. Surprisingly, John Ritter's "Hooperman" (a SF detective show) has a real cutie on the police force and a queen in the apartment building Hooperman inherited in the first installment. This one bears watching at least

for two more episodes. In Private Eye, that hot detective is absolutely a hunk, but they keep throwing Hollywood queens in the background, sort of the Sisters of P.I. of the '50s!!

And since the Castro hasn't had a leather shop in its midst for so many years, Mercury Mail Order (purveyors of leather, leather dildos and other masculine accoutrements to queens all over the country), have moved to 4084 - 18th St., upstairs from the Village Bar. (Hi, Bill Martin!) Expect their grand opening in late October.

Frank Lapaglia, the barber on the same floor is ecstatic! I never



Leather Daddy's Boy and Leather Daddy come out for the AIDS Emergency Fund at the Folsom Street Fair (Photo: S. Martin)

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knew the mail order business could be so fascinating. Have you seen "Dildoe—The Movie" yet? Sales of the M.E.N. video of "Men Behind Bars" is running neck and neck with "Dildoe"!!

Saddest news I got this week is that The Baybrick Inn on Folsom is closing for good on Saturday, Oct. 3. The "Bye-Bye Bay B" party begins at 2000 hours Saturday and ends at 0700 on Sunday morning. The fabulous Marga Gomez will MC the VIP toasts beginning at 2330 hours and the DJ's all night include Donna Rego, Stefanie Phillips, Page Hodel, and Lauren Hewitt who will Meet The Press around 2000 hours.

I've had many opportunities to visit and down a few at the Baybrick. Owner Lauren Hewitt had the right idea for a women's bar (men welcome) and lots of community involvement. The Baybrick gave a lot of push to stand-up comedy, men and women and they've won a lot of awards for their efforts for their community efforts. Yeah, Lauren, we're sad too. Lots of fine and lasting relationships were formed there.

The 3-day closing partying starts tonight with Bonnie Hayes at 2000. The Blazing Redheads (of course!) perform from 2200 followed by dancing. Friday, all the former favorite comics begin performing at 2000 hours and the Grand Finale is Saturday night.

I just want to say thanks to Lauren Hewitt and her great staff—the Baybrick Inn—it was always a gas. Thanks for all those wonderful nights and thanks for



Boy meets boy at the Folsom Street Fair (Photo: S. Martin)

your interest in the welfare of all the community—you were right on!

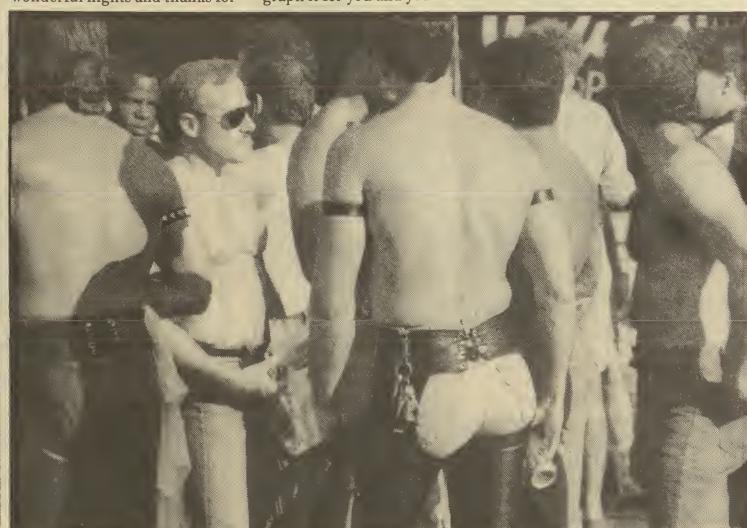
Don't forget the Society of Janus Erotic Art Faire this Saturday. Call (415) 848-0452 for location and directions, but only if you're positively interested in S&M. Hi, Karen! Much success with the show!

And don't forget the 1988 Bare Chest Calendar makes its debut on Friday, Oct. 16 with most of the winners on hand to autograph it for you and you can bid

for a dinner date with one or more of them. A benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

This Saturday, Oct. 3 too, Ms. Tatiana's First Saturday show is at Kimo's starting at 2100 hours; only \$5 with Flame, Grand Duke Tom Roller, Lola Lust, Big D, Inga and Jacqueline.

Have fun at the Castro Fair; take care and be safe. Are you gearing up to compete in the Mr. South of Market Contest? Think about it. Keep your legs crossed and stay out of the bushes. Lots of DISH next week!



Chaps were very popular items at the Folsom Street Fair

(Photo: S. Martin)

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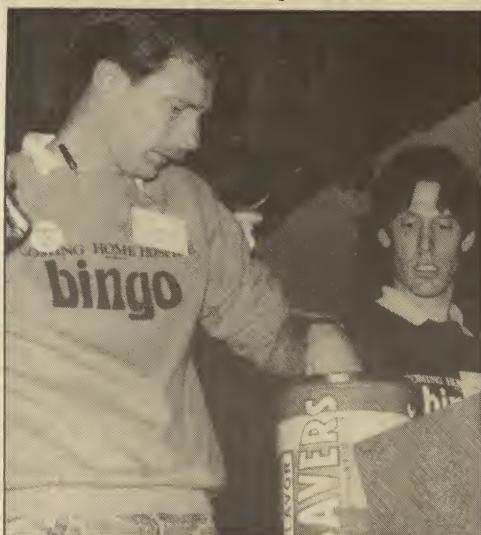
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## Sweet Lips

### Pennies Add Up



Pennies were collected at Bingo night last Thursday

(Photo: S. Martin)

This Sunday, Oct. 4 the New Bell Saloon is presenting an "Affair" in recognition of and for the benefit of Mark Friese. It starts at 2 p.m. with a plant and etc. auction with lots of entertainment including David Kelsey, Davida and the Galleon's own Bob Sandner. Even Harry Gardner and LaKish will be there as guest auctioneers, so don't miss it.

If you ever want or need a great piano player, listen to Trixie of Sutter's Mill, a very talented and hunky guy—and not a bad drag queen.

Had a nice card from Bob Dunn who is still in Las Vegas but is bored as hell and wishes he was back here on Geary Street stirring. Come on home, honey.

Happy Birthday greeting, this week, to the Widow Doan of the popular Reflections Bar on Polk Street. Incidentally, Widow, the bar does look a lot better now.

Across the street you have the popular Giraffe Bar with the handsome Bill on the planks, days Tuesday through Friday, so drop by for a popular libation with him and tell him the Lips sent you as I promise you'll enjoy him as well as the Giraffe.

Spanish Rose, aka Jimmy Steger, is still doing well out there at Laguna Honda and his Harry does bring him downtown once in awhile. Let me know when you'll be coming the next time, Rose, as we all want to enjoy him as well.

Flash: New bartender at the Rawhide 2. Mike, very hunky, recently returned from the East Coast. He used to be here seven years ago. So do drop by and see and drink with him.

Thanks to Tony: Char is in Europe, Kenny is in Chicago and Art is in Clear Lake, so they are thinking of remodeling the Kokpit.

The Gate at Pine and Jones is still on the upswing in collecting pennies for AIDS Emergency Fund and would you believe they have over \$3,000 so far. So if you have any and would like to contribute them they'll pick them up if you call 883-2852 after 3 p.m. A great cause.

Note: The Godfather Service Fund in the last four months increased to include four more hospitals making a total of eight hospitals. They need volunteers, donations, refrigerators, video tapes and other things. So, if you have anything, please call the San

Francisco Tavern Guild at 771-6133. Okay Tony?

A memo to Sophie of the Inner Circle in Chicago: Jack Sebok and Jim Laine want to hear from you when you are here in November and yes, I have the number.

Jimmy Quinn, aka 'Marc,' and his 'Nanny' David have returned from a three week stay on the continent and said that they had a marvelous time in London and are looking forward to returning shortly. But you did need the rest, Jimmy.

Watch for all of the great Halloween plans that are forming, especially Jerry Colletti's bus from the Galleon Restaurant, home of our current Empress Tina. Sutter's Mill will be doing a biggie on the Friday before Halloween with all of the help in costume and I am sure you'll be the 'star' of it all, Metz.

Don't forget the Octoberfest, Oct. 9-11 at the White Swallow on Polk Street especially with the great food being served by Aunt Martha's Kitchen. They are going all out for this spectacular event.

This Saturday, Oct. 3 at Kimo's Show Room, Tatiana will be having her first Saturday show and it promises to be spectacular so don't miss, right Jay Noonan?

Also this Sunday Oct. 4 is the Castro Street Fair that will have just about everyone in the city out there at one time or the other. Yes, you are going to be doing something wonderful again this year, aren't you, Bella?

Be prepared for the Portland Coronation on Oct. 24. They go all out in Portland and I am sure that Emperor Ray and Empress Peacock will be doing something out of sight with the theme being 'A Steamy Night—The Copa Reopens.' But can you picture the event starting at 6 p.m. prompt. That is so the ball is over by midnight and everyone returns to their favorite bar. Mine, of course, being the Embers/Avenue at 110 N.W. Broadway, so don't miss the ball or the Embers/Avenue, right Steve and Steve?

Just to let you all know that the great Maggi Jiggs passed away a few weeks ago and will be missed by his many friends from coast to coast—New York, Provence Town, San Francisco, Miami and New Orleans, and too many places to list. You have made it to the 'Stairway to Paradise,' Jiggs.

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## Irma

(Continued from page 28)

fore you go. What you do need to know is that two actors, whose way with costumes, characters, and words is very unusual, fill the stage for nearly two hours with a parade of delicious outrages.

Chances are that the extreme technical requirements of the show, already well handled, will become second nature to the cast and crew very soon. As that process settles in, some of the comic possibilities that are not yet being exploited will turn up on stage. Until then, *Irma Vep*, which is a potential 10 (on a scale of . . .), is already a seven or eight on the laugh meter. •

### "Ojos Que No Ven": A Clarification

Apologies are due to Jose Gutierrez and Jose Vergelin, respectively the Director and the Production Manager of the Latino AIDS Project's new educational video, *Ojos Que No Ven* (*Eyes That Fail To See*), reviewed here in our Sept. 17 issue. The omission of their names was an unintentional oversight.

Additionally, Rodrigo Reyes was incorrectly identified here

as the Videomaker. In fact, *Ojos* included the contributions of many talented artists from within the Latino community, including Reyes' imaginative script; Isaac Villanueva's original musical composition, "La Cumbia del SIDA"; and the considerable expertise of numerous actors, consultants, and Project staff.

—Wendell Ricketts

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# GOING OUT OF OUR MINDS: THE METAPHYSICS OF LIBERATION



## SONIA JOHNSON

**Johnson**

(Continued from page 26)

### A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE

Her current commitment is to creating a viable alternative to that intolerance, an alternative based on women acknowledging the intrinsic value of their femaleness. Where women's values are assessed on their own merit rather than by contrast to patriarchal standards.

"I'm trying and succeeding, more and more in living in a world of my own. Where competitiveness isn't necessary anymore. I want to create collectives

and women's communities in a new way. We've got to get ourselves into groups and say, 'let us now concentrate upon dynamics and vow that we'll go on, that we'll make this work come hell or . . . whatever. To be together. That is the revolution.'

She sounds determined but cheerful as she says this, as well she might. For, to a woman who has taken on Ronald Reagan, the Mormon Church and the metaphysics of her own soul, the coming of hell should hold little fear. Alone or in a group of like-minded others, Sonia Johnson will no doubt cut another trail and prove, yet again, that she is equal to the challenge. •

## Biloxi Blues

(Continued from page 28)

to react) to them. One of his daily entries in a notebook which serves as his diary states that he thinks Arnold Epstein, his fellow Jew in the barracks, might be a homosexual and "it bothers me that it bothers me."

Arnold is an intellectual, wearing thick-rimmed glasses, who's read "War and Peace" five times, who's being accused by the prejudiced barracks-bully of being a fag and/or a thief, and who refuses to compromise with the Army and its indignities and insane logic (and therefore spends most of his nonreading time cleaning latrines). When the battle-damaged sergeant creates a theft (which, in turn, causes racial acrimony), just to make a point, it is Epstein who outspokenly objects to his "creating a crime . . . Neanderthal in its conception."

Shades of entrapment!

The sergeant makes a federal case out of a homosexual-in-the-middle mystery and harps on the word, "fellatio," which gives rise to Epstein's scoffing that it might be like an Agatha Christie mystery, like "Murder by Fellatio" or "Murder on the Fellatio Express" (also: "sounds like an Italian ice cream"). Of course, the fellating "culprit" is discharged from the U.S. Army.

Eugene, the aspiring writer, and incipient liberal, is instructed by Arnold that, if he is to become a writer, he cannot be

just a detached observer. He cannot write clever diary entries. He cannot remain forever "neutral, like Switzerland." He will have to fight for some principles.

Eugene feels guilt when he fails to defend Arnold against attacks by others. The character of Arnold Epstein—outspoken, principled, idealistic and somewhat intellectually snobbish—is the catalyst in his maturation, as well as the author's. While Eugene becomes more adult in this play, Neil Simon becomes more adult in his play writing.

This more adult, or mature, Neil Simon is still very funny, very witty. In the tradition of handing down from one generation to another, the task of directing was given to Simon's daughter, Nancy Simon, who had previously worked as assistant to her father and to directors like Mike Nichols.

Their confidence in her was justified. I only wish she had seen to it that Kevin Hardesty's performance as Arnold Epstein was more intense and uncompromising, as Barry Miller's had been on Broadway. Ted W. Henning was impressive as the bullyish Wykowski, who, according to Eugene, had a permanent erection, and who, according to Arnold, "eats Hershey bars with the wrapper still on them."

Peter Birkenhead, as Eugene Jerome, was engaging and likeable, with the smile, movement and some mannerisms of Matthew Broderick, who is still the most famous Eugene Jerome. •



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## Glide Holds Benefit For AIDS Foundation

On Sunday, Oct. 4, Glide Memorial United Methodist Church begins an effort to raise people's awareness in the AIDS health crisis. There will be a concert featuring the Glide Ensemble, the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco, Deena Jones, Menage and the Rappers of Glide Church. People with AIDS will give short remarks during the afternoon.

The concert, "Gospel Musical for AIDS '87," begins at 2 p.m. at the church's 330 Ellis St. (at Taylor) location.

The Rappers of Glide Church are teenagers who composed raps which were performed in competition with other groups from around the San Francisco Bay Area. The Glide group came in second.

The concert is a benefit. Virtually all of the \$10 donation will be given to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

For those in the Glide Ensemble, this is a very important concert. At least two members of the singing group have died from the disease. Several other members of Glide have also died.

The Glide Ensemble is a sing-

## Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

Even Leonie Rysanek (a veteran of more *Ring* productions than one would ever want to shake a stick at) told friends that although, when she had first signed a contract to appear in Seattle she felt she was making a terrible mistake, she discovered that the Seattle *Ring* was not just a *Ring* of ideas. It was, without question, the most exciting *Ring* she had ever seen in her life.

### TORCH SONG TETRALOGY

There were, as is to be expected, some morbidly traditional opera fans who—misunderstanding the potent results that can take place when a combination of (a) solid dramatic and musicological homework, (b) the use of nontraditional sets and costumes and (c) some ingenious brainstorming in the face of tight economies reach a critical creative temperature—naively labeled the Seattle Opera's venture as a "European-style" *Ring*.

The hard truth is that, with the exception of this year's conductor, Hermann Michael, and a handful of soloists, there was very little about the Seattle *Ring* that could be called European. The cast was mostly American, the spirit with which this *Ring* was produced was aggressively American and the site at which the *Ring* was staged (directly in the shadow of the Seattle Center's Space Needle) was unmistakably American.

I doubt that any Wagnerian worth his salt could have asked for a slimmer Lohengrin than Emile Belcourt or a better Wotan than Roger Roloff—who sang with stunning resonance and a magnificent stage presence. Alexandra Hughes was an elegant Fricka in *Das Rheingold*; Diane Curry later served as a wonderfully haughty *Walkure* Fricka and an impassioned Waltraute.

Romanian basso Gabor Andrasz made a spectacular American debut as both Hunding and hagen; John del Carlo was exceptional as both Donner and Gunther. Barry Busse's Siegmund and Toni Kramer's Siegfried

## Patsy's Fans Raise \$3.5 K For AIDS Emergency Fund

It's been 24 years since the hearts of country and western music fans were broken by the tragic plane crash which took the life of C&W superstar Patsy Cline. But Patsy's fans will never forget her and will always pay tribute to her. One such tribute took place recently at Julie's Supper Club.

It was a birthday tribute to Patsy. Approximately 150 of her gay followers gathered at Julie's to honor the woman who made "Sweet Dreams" more than just something to say before turning out the lights.

But the night was to honor more than just Patsy. Supporters of Patsy report that \$3,500 was raised for the AIDS Emergency Fund. (Ticket to the event cost went for \$30.) In addition, bartenders donated tips and 15 percent of the bar tab to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Tickets are on sale at all three Headlines locations as well as at the church.



Some of the celebrants at the tribute to Patsy Cline

(Photo: M. Klem)

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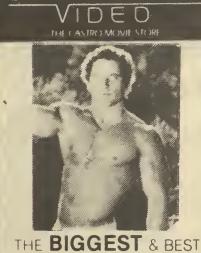
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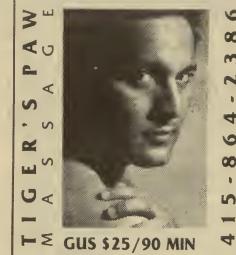
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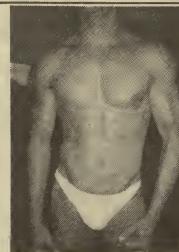
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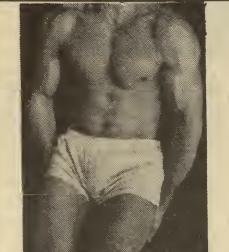
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# BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

## BOWLING

Hurry To Register

### 'No-Tap' Soon Will Be On Top



You can't bowl without your feet

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

by Richard McPherson

After a year of planning and preparation, the San Francisco No-Tap Invitational Tournament (SFNTIT '87) is less than six weeks away. S.F.'s biggest annual national gay bowling tournament expects to draw 500 participants from at least 45 cities around the U.S. and Canada. Entries are already pouring in from such cities as Portland, New York, Vancouver, Boston, San Antonio, Las Vegas and Ft. Lauderdale.

The prize fund which is drawing men and women from such far away places is expected to be

over \$20,000, the largest of any gay tournament in the country. Fundraisers such as the monthly no-taps, 50/50 drawings and Casino Nights have all contributed to this large amount.

The no-tap format for this tournament makes it different from most, and is the only national gay tournament of its kind in existence. Team, doubles and singles events will take place at Castle Lanes in San Francisco on Friday-Sunday, Nov. 5-8. Bowlers may compete in team and singles once and the doubles event twice, three games in each, for an entry fee of \$20 per event.

No tap, for the uninitiated, adds a fun new twist to the game of tenpin bowling by establishing the rule that a nine pin count on the first ball also counts as a strike.

Local bowlers should note that the entry deadline is Oct. 10, so you can't wait to the last minute to enter this one. You had better pay attention to this deadline, like the rest of the country, or you may be left out.

As of Saturday, Oct. 3 there will be weekly tournament committee meetings open to chairpersons and anyone else who wishes to volunteer a bit of time. Lane

monitors are still needed for tournament days and some housing is also needed for out-of-town bowlers. If you can help in either of these areas or would like further tournament information call Randy Peterson at 626-8559.

The Oct. 3 meeting is scheduled at 10:30 a.m. (before the monthly No Tap tourney) at Castle Lanes, on Geneva Avenue (next to the Cow Palace).

The last of the major fundraisers for SFNTIT '87 is Casino Nite #2, Friday, Oct. 2 at Cafe San Marcos (Market St. near Castro). Casino Nite #1, held a couple of months ago was a great success . . . San Marcos is a perfect backdrop for the gambling scene. The usual blackjack, 21, craps

and roulette tables will be set up and action runs from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. There is no admission charge. Monies received will benefit not only SFNTIT but AIDS organizations and the Gay Softball leagues.

SFNTIT souvenir towels and T-Shirts are now on sale on league nights at Park Bowl and Japantown Bowl.

Shine those balls and start gearing up, Nov. 5-8 is going to be a big bowling and party time. Let's show our visitors a great tournament and a great time. Get involved!



Two women paired up to cap  
(Continued on next page)

### Viva SF In Las Vegas!!!

by Lektro Gabadette

Over the past few years, San Francisco bowlers have carried a few places in various tournaments: a first here, a second there and a good showing in the local No-Tap last November. But there has not been any real display of power which would reflect the numbers and skills of local bowlers.

Times are changing. San Franciscans are making serious dents in their Party/Yes/Bowl-No reputation. How does capturing the top places in all events of the recent Las Vegas Showgirl Invitational grab you?

First place in the singles event went to Peter Bassford with a 711 series. This was Pete's first scratch 600 series. What an appropriate place to bowl a "7-11" series!!!

But that wasn't all. First in the No-Tap went to Mal Garcia with 805. Meanwhile, Randy Peterson joined forces with North Hollywood's Jerry Lovell for first in the doubles with a 1372 score. Other top-notch performances were turned in by Doug Litwin and J.C. Halstead (second place in the doubles), Hugh Smith (third in the No-Tap), Chuck Webster (fourth in the singles), Don Gambell and J.C. Halstead (fourth in the doubles) and Don Gambell and Peter Bassford (fifth in the doubles).

Last year, Las Vegas hosted the International Gay Bowling Or-



Mal Garcia, first place in the No-Tap event  
(Photo: D. Litwin)

ganization (IGBO) tourney at the El Rancho and then didn't hold its annual doubles tourney. This tournament was part of the Southwest Invitational Fun Tournament (SWIFT) group, which includes Arizona, Nevada and California.

The Las Vegans more than made up for it this year, taking a cue from SF and adding a No-Tap after the major action. An estimated 180 bowlers from Houston, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Francisco and Canada partici-

pated in the fun. Four squads of doubles and singles were held Saturday and one squad was in action on Sunday morning. In addition, 138 keglers participated in the Noon No-Tap.

There were 14 men from San Francisco. While there were no women from San Francisco, women were well represented from Las Vegas, Phoenix and Los Angeles.

Las Vegas tourneys have always had various "gimmicks" to spice up the scene. The best-known gimmick is a prize for anyone scoring 69 (169, 269, etc.). For this tourney, participants had to station teammates in both gutters while another threw a ball between their legs. As potentially disfiguring as this may sound, anatomical correctness was maintained and certain performances were not any threats to anyone heading the Strip!

The IGBO banquet was held at the "El Rancho" with Las Vegas' own "luau" style. While bowlers tend towards a wardrobe of T-shirts and jeans, there still weren't any grass shirts and only a few aloha shirts.

You can't say it often enough. A gay bowling tournament is GREAT fun. Get 200 queens together for a weekend and the result is subtle purrs instead of cat fights. The only place you'll make more good friends is in a gay bowling league.

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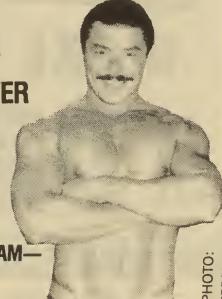


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Steve Smith

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Doug Sutterfield

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## No-Tap

(Continued from previous page)  
ture first place and \$120 at Park Bowl in "Brunch & Bowl No-Tap," the ongoing monthly no-tap tournament series. Elizabeth Yesowitch and Marti Taylor bowled a handicap score of 1,648, one of the highest doubles scores ever posted in this series, beating out the second place finishers by 105 pins. Yesowitch shot games of 212, 247, 207 for a 666 to Taylor's 189, 266, 278 for a 733, a remarkable scoring achievement considering her 141 entering average. Marti's 278 game began with ten strikes in a row, at least six of which were real.

"My heart was in my throat and my knees were shaking," she said, "I knew I had a 300 game going and I wanted to be the first woman bowler to shoot one (a 300) in the monthly no-taps." An eleventh frame split dashed her hopes.

Marti has had a good summer season, finishing the Wednesday TGL with a 154 average. After spending years with her average wavering in the 130s and 140s, she attributes her current average increase to slowing down and taking more time on the lanes, and pacing herself so she can increase her concentration. In addition she says, "I've stopped 'cranking' the ball and I'm learning how to adjust to lane conditions."

The \$80 second place winners were Ernie Wilson and Peter Bassford with a 1,543 handicap score.

The money winners of the 54 teams entered were:

1st, Elizabeth Yesowitch and Marti Taylor, 1,399 + 249 = 1,648.

2nd, Ernie Wilson and Peter Bassford, 1,297 + 246 = 1,543.

3rd, Tom Neidert and Randy Poupart, 1,267 + 270 = 1,537.

4th, Doug Litwin and J.C. Halstead, 1,410 + 120 = 1,530.

5th, Huge Smith and Eddie Barido, 1,511.

6th, Patti Oats and Randy Peterson, 1,495.

7th Doug Litwin and Bill Gall, 1,485.

Congratulations to Hugh Smith, the only bowler to bowl a perfect no-tap 300 game this time around.

There is one monthly no tap tourney left before the big November no-tap extravaganza: S.F. No-Tap Invitational Tournament (SFNTIT). This one, called "The Last One Before the Big One," is scheduled for Oct. 3 at Castle Lanes. Squad times are 1, 3, 5 p.m. If you've never bowled at Castle Lanes and plan on competing in SFNTIT, this October event would be a good time to get acquainted with the lanes.

\* \* \*

Not much in the way of scoring happened at Japantown Bowl the week of 9/13-9/18 as the summer leagues are winding down. David Arnold (180 avg), shot the high game with a 231 and Larry Graeber, 156, shot a 212. Final summer league stats for Japantown will appear upon completion of the leagues.

It was a great summer season at Park Bowl with many great scoring achievements, most noteworthy being, of course, Arne Prince's 751 series and J.C. Halstead's 703 series, as well as Randy Peterson's 290 game. Don Gambell bowled on three teams during this past summer season and finished on the first place team in all three leagues, two at Park Bowl on Wednesday and Thursday, and one at Japantown on Monday night, beating it or not! Jeff Hettmansperger waited until the last night of the season to take over high scratch series in the Thursday league, finishing out his third game with eight strikes in a row for a 242 game and 644 series, beating out Frank Cloutier by eight pins.

## JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings

### SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 14 of 16)

	W	L
1. Fishes 'N'	34	22
2. M. D. Squared	33	23
3. We Know!	32	24
4. Natalie Deadwoods	31	25
5. Andy's Angels Plus	31	25
6. Split Ends	30	26
7. Cowboys and Indians	26	30
8. Love Potion No. 9	26	30
9. Carmas Guy Two	25	27
10. Mary's Boys	24	32
11. Mixed Company	23	33
12. Strange Interlude	17	35

### HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 2 of 36)

	W	L
1. Lois's Lane	7½	½
2. Tropical Teezeers	7	1
3. Hard Times	7	1
4. Urasia Dragon	6	2
5. Halfakala Hookers	5½	2½
6. Moby Dick Wailers	5	3
7. Ball Busters	3½	4½
8. Bulldoggettes	3	5
9. Team #06	3	5
10. Viking Twins	3	5
11. Hi Bound	2	6
12. Easy Leis	2	6
13. Team #10	1	7
14. The Eruptions	½	7½

### MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Final)

	W	L
1. Balls to Spare	44	20
2. Pendulum 9	40	24
3. Wayne's Boys	40	24
4. Tropical Fruit	39	25
5. The P.I.F.S	38	26
6. Lambda Capital	34½	29½
7. Rawhide	34	30
8. SPCA's Doggie Bowl	21½	42½
9. Grumblers	21	39
10. Missing Persons	4	56

Min. fee 18 years of age.

### TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Final)

	W	L
1. Giraffe	42	22
2. Still Hoping	42	22
3. Lois Lanes	40	24
4. Kimo's Kows	38	36
5. DJets	37	27
6. Summer Boys	37	27
7. Bobby Pins	36	28
8. Twin Peaks	33	31
9. Split Sisters	33	31
10. Moby Dick Wailers	33	31
11. Madamettes	32	32
12. C.S.A. Low Hangers	31	33
13. Stiff Competition	27½	36½
14. The Dinah Soars	21½	42½
15. Angora Debs	19	41
16. Team #16	0	64

### WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 14 of 16)

	W	L
1. Ball Maneuvers	39	17
2. A. E. F. Mauers	35½	20½
3. Parakeet Lounge	35½	20½
4. Play With It, Ltd.	34	22
5. Bumpy Knights	32	24
6. Wom' Women	31½	24½
7. E. Z. Pick Up	31	25
8. Chatter Boxes	29	27
9. Problem Children	27	25
10. Stray Katz	17	35
11. Cumming Attractions	15½	36½
12. Sting	6	46

### THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 14 of 16)

	W	L
1. Old Rick's	37	19
2. Oddballs	32½	23½
3. Yacht Club	29½	26½
4. Hot 'N' Hunky	28	28
5. Stallion	27½	28½
6. Galleon	22½	33½
7. Team #04	6	10
8. Team #08	0	16

## SOFTBALL

### Thanks, Rita



Rick Brattin was roasted by the league a while back  
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

by Tom Vinded

One of the most loved members of the Gay Softball League had his last hurrah at the recent league banquet. The last thank-you lacked something. So, I write.

Rick "Rita" Brattin has given his all to the GSL for the past seven years as a board member. Three of those years, he was our commissioner. The recently concluded World Series had his mark all over it: lots of glitz, drama, excitement and most of all, fun.

Rick never stopped, no matter what he did. He could party with the best of them. Many times, when his health wasn't at its best, he did what he had to do, whether he was a judge, MC, or whether he was dunked in a pool of water.

How about the expense of being commissioner? No one will ever know how much comes out of your own pocket, especially in a bar.

From his early days as league secretary, Rick has grown and so has the league. His ready smile and warmth will be missed on the board.

So Rick, thanks for a job well done. Hopefully, the next GSL commissioner will seek your ad-

vice in the coming months, thus keeping a good thing going. Move over Docca and Vinded, here comes "Rita."

Do you think you can replace Rick as GSL commissioner? Well, on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m., the GSL will hold its election of officers at Cafe Sn. Marcos. If you care, you'll be there.

Before I forget, I must tip my hat to the tournament committee of the World Series. Several past committees thought they worked! This committee did work hard!!!

So, a special thank you to Fred Howell, who started all this World Series stuff, and David Kelsey and Keyboard Express. Others doing their part were Mike Fitten, Denis Geoffrey, Angel Olmeda, Kevin Andrews, Steve Sternfeld, Emily Fields, Frank Rivera, Tony Trevizo, Jim Epifano, Tom Avila, fabulous Donna Jane Fonda Gecewicz, Bill Piecock, Roger Pelletier, Dwayne "Della" Thomas and Deena Jones.

Also, I can't forget Seaman Russ and the American Legion Post Color Guard, the Castro Lions Color Guard and Gilbert Baker. And finally, a very special thanks to Kate Elvin of the Beaches. You were all great. •

### Mini Classes at Castro/Valencia

Seven new mini classes open the week of Oct. 19 at the Castro/Valencia complex. All evening classes are free and run nine weeks. A minimum of 15 students is required to start a class.

Tuesday, Oct. 20, a class on Small Business Bookkeeping will begin, and Thursday, Oct. 22, a course on Women Waiting to Enter Management will begin, both at Mission High School, Dolores and 18th streets.

Wednesday, Oct. 21, classes will begin on Basic Income Tax

Information; Challenge For Women Over 40; Business Writing, A Practical Approach; and Options For Men Over 40 at Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. Classes on Self Defense and Training For Workers in Alcoholism will begin Thursday, Oct. 22, also at Everett Middle School.

The Castro/Valencia program is composed of both college credit courses and adult education classes. Call 647-4729 for more information. •

### San Francisco Pool Association Standings

#### DIVISION I

	W - L Pet.
Vanna White Swallow	71-41 .634
Cinch Saddletramps	65-47 .580
Bear Thugs	62-50 .554
Imelda San Marcos	53-59 .473
Pendulum Pirates	49-63 .438
Castro Station Express	48-64 .429
The Overpass L'Equipe	45-67 .402
Badlands I	29-67 .302

#### DIVISION III

	W - L Pet.
Deluxe Ducks	79-33 .705
Waterhole IV Revenge	62-50 .554
Detour DV8s	60-52 .536
Park Bowl Pockettes	60-52 .536
Amelia's 'R Us	57-55 .509
Special Effects	44-52 .458
Elaine's Elites	50-62 .446
Maud's T & C's	42-70 .375

#### DIVISION II

	W - L Pet.
Betty White Swallow	55-25 .688
Cafe Sn Marcos Marksmen	56-43 .566
Bear Bottoms	46-50 .479
Castro Station Cruisers	46-66 .411
Pilsner Pluggers	44-68 .393
Peg's Panthers	34-62 .354
The Overpass Turnarounds	24-72 .250

#### DIVISION IV

	W - L Pet.
Watering Hole Too	75-37 .670
Eagle Creek Chaos III	71-41 .634
Park Bowl Badasses	69-43 .616
Special Delivery	66-46 .589
The Other Deluxe	64-48 .571
Detour Destroyers	57-55 .509
Maud's Squad	48-64 .429
Amelia's Furries	36-60 .375

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## Swimming & Diving

# New Swimmers, New Board Lead Tsunamis Into Second Year

by Hal Herkenhoff

San Francisco's gay/lesbian Tsunami Masters Swim Club marked the finish of its highly successful first year of existence with a festive party and awards potluck last Friday at the Stern Grove Clubhouse. As the inaugural board left office and the new leaders took their place, it was definitely a time to celebrate the birth of the Bay Area's only gay/lesbian Masters team, created out of their efforts towards last year's Gay Games II.

Led by 1987 Tsunami of the Year and Cable Car Award winner Tim Elliott, the first board of Elizabeth Kay, Cris Allen, Andrew Alder, Rick Windes, Crystal Brunzell, and Guy Decker has set up the organization of a recognized Masters swim team that has entered local and national competitions, as well as navigating the waters of city politics to gain more and more needed pool practice time for this growing group.

Co-hosting this event along with the Garfield Gators Masters, a largely non-gay team that has assisted with the sanctioning of Gay Games II swimming and with the establishment of the Tsunamis, the awards banquet was a statement in itself. The cooperation between the gay and non-gay swimmers in Northern California in recent years has been a pleasure to watch.

The first year of the Tsunamis saw set-backs, patience, success, and a booming membership. Just this summer, the young Tsunamis were rewarded with recognition and assistance from S.F.'s Recreation and Park Department, which controls the scheduling of the city's aquatic facilities.

When you consider that in November 1986 the Tsunamis were still looking for pool time to practice and in November 1987 they will be co-hosting a sanctioned Masters swim meet at S.F. State with the other Rec and Park branches, it's obvious how far they really have come.

With a growing membership of more than 60 gay/lesbian swimmers, the new board of



Hal Herkenhoff got the Rona Barrett Award at the Tsunami banquet

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

directors (Cris Allen, Andrew Alder, Mary Huber, Alex Weibezahn, Terry Shelton, Richard Chapman, and Mark Lipinski) will have an entirely new set of issues to confront. Among the new tasks will be to find more practice time in the city's pools to accommodate the growing numbers, and to recruit more women swimmers.

The Tsunamis welcome a variety of ability levels and ages, along with more experienced swimmers, while providing instruction and coaching by world Masters record holder Maria Pease, formerly an assistant coach to Stanford's women's swim team.

While growing in membership and improving local arrangements with the city and other Masters teams, the Tsunamis still keep an eye on the competition with the other gay/lesbian teams, especially on the West Coast. Now, two big additions have come to the roster of the Tsunamis from Boston's Craig Mallory and S.F.'s Susan Smuck.

As swimming conditions continue to improve and more swimmers keep coming over to the Tsunamis, the team is rapidly becoming one of the strongest Masters teams in all of Northern California. Last August, the Tsunamis and their S.F. Rec and Park teammates caused their own

nearly all of these times finishing ahead of all other age brackets as well. Mallory set the Northern California Masters record for 100 freestyle at Gay Games II in 1986.

Susan Smuck, a national contender in all breaststroke distances and also a gold-medal winner at Games II, will be able

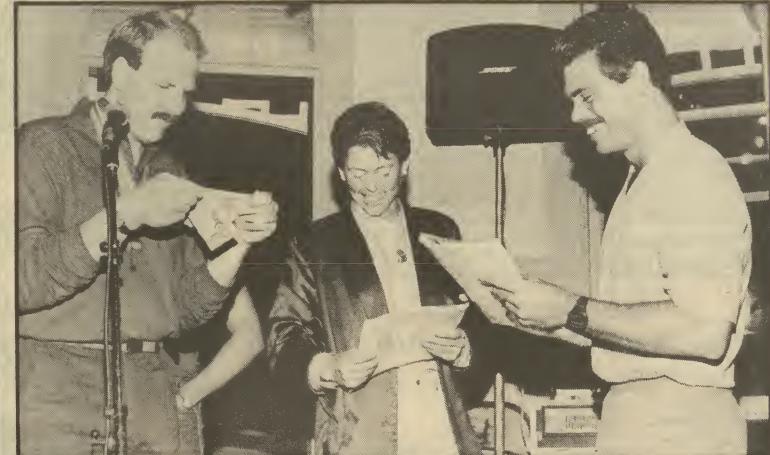


version of a tidal wave at the Northern California Long Course (50-meter pool) Championships by finishing fourth behind three national powerhouse teams. At that meet the Tsunamis mobilized 30 swimmers. Who knows what will happen next year with the Tsunamis at their current strength?

Mallory blazed to five gold medals at last year's Games in his five races in the men's 19-24 year bracket; 100-yard individual medley (54.77 seconds), 50 butterfly (24.37), 200 freestyle (1:46.14), 100 freestyle (46.91), and 50 freestyle (21.81), with



I guess you had to be there (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



The Tsunami Angelfish awards for the most desirable bodies went to Elizabeth Kay and Richard Chapman (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

## MEN Releases New Videos

Male Entertainment Network (M.E.N.) announces its release of new shows for the fall season. Available now are the 1987 Versions of International Mr. Leather, Mr. Drummer Finals, and the RSVP Cruise to Remember. Also available now is the men's and women's versions of

Physique '87, held in San Francisco on Gay Pride Weekend. The 1987 Miss Continental Pageant, featuring the best female impersonators in the country, is scheduled for release Oct. 15.

M.E.N. was also the official video producer for the 1st International Gay Rodeo Finals held

last week near San Francisco, and will be releasing complete video highlights of the rodeo, including slow-motion replays of the best bull and bronc rides.

For more information, contact M.E.N., 1 United Nations Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94102 or call (415) 621-0100.

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\$550 - Studio, 501 Octavia #3 w/w carpeting, curtains & shades, gas stove.

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## Roommates

## Roommates

## Jobs Offered

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### Engineering Dept.

The Engineering Dept wishes to develop a pool of qualified individuals to teach in the area of Advanced Surveying Technology on a part-time basis in the day or evening as openings occur during the Spring, Fall, Winter and beyond. Applications will be accepted and processed no earlier than Nov. 1, 1987, and then as needed on an ongoing basis through March 18, 1988. Availability: Spring Semester, 1988. Duties and responsibilities: Ability to teach any of the following: Map Drafting, Land Surveying, Astronomy for Surveying, Topographic Surveying, Route Surveying, Photogrammetry, Curves and Earthwork. Minimum qualifications: (1) An Associate Degree in Surveying or related field. (2) Hold or be eligible for appropriate California Community College Instructor Credential. (3) Two years experience working in the field of Surveying. Salary: \$27.58 per hour minimum; set in accordance with the current San Francisco Community College District Salary Schedule. For additional information contact James M. Lallas, Chairman, Engineering Department, City College of San Francisco, telephone: (415) 239-3505.

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### CHEF INSTRUCTOR

Full-Time 1st year contract. The Hotel and Restaurant Dept. at City College of San Francisco is responsible for campus food service. As part of the curriculum, the department operates the Student Cafeteria and Faculty Dining Room. Application deadline: Oct. 23, 1987. Position available for Spring Semester 1988. Duties and responsibilities: (1) Teach Quantity Elementary and Advanced Foods Preparation lecture/laboratory class. Supervise food production for the cafeteria and fountain which are part of the operations of the City College Hotel and Restaurant program. (2) In addition to normal teaching responsibilities, this position requires ordering, analyzing food costs, purchasing, portion control, sanitation and menu planning operations. Initial salary placement is based upon education and experience, and ranges from \$21,249.54 to \$22,228.15 per year. Send resume with current San Francisco Community College Dist. Salary Schedule for City College Instructors. Salary is for a 177-day work calendar. For additional information contact Don Christian, Chair Hotel and Restaurant Department, City College of San Francisco, 50 Phelan Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112, telephone (415) 239-3154.

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## Must be

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## Speciality

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OCTOBER 1, 1987 PAGE 45

# BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

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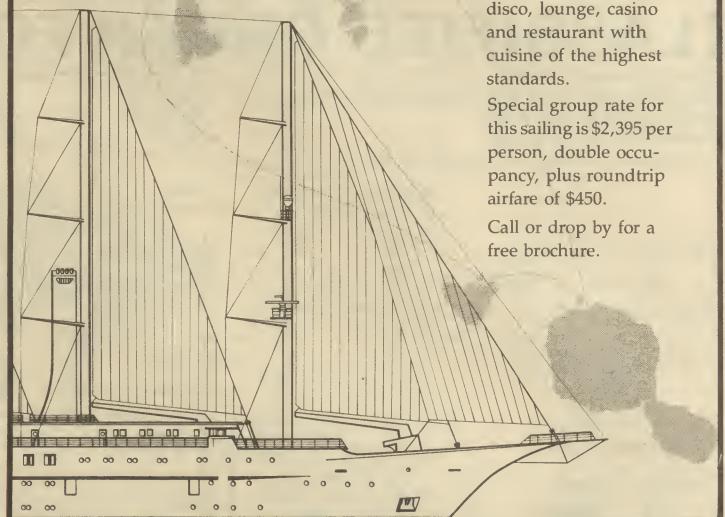
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